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How Stillwater Came to Be

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THE STORY of Stillwater begins with the name of Joseph Renshaw Brown, one of the most colorful personalities in the early history of Minnesota. He did not remain a resident of Stillwater for many years, but he set the scene for its very beginnings and influenced the affairs of its early days before other interests called him elsewhere. A man with a creative imagination, with a shrewd mind alert for any new challenge and a roving foot to follow the challenge, wherever it led, he influenced widely varied ventures and instigated many enterprises. After he ran away from his home in Pennsylvania at the age of fourteen, he joined the army and was sent to Fort Snelling under Colonel Henry Leavenworth; later he became at various times a trader, pioneer farmer, lumberman, legislator, public officer, editor, politician, Indian agent, inventor, and speculator. Dr. William W. Folwell writes that Brown "is entitled without controversy to the distinction of being called pioneer Minnesotan."¹

When he left the service at Fort Snelling in 1825 at the age of twenty and became an Indian trader, it was natural that Brown should find his way deeper into Indian country. It was natural also that he should become the pioneer of pioneers on the St. Croix, that he should have a trading post on the west side of the river and should be found cutting logs near the falls when Franklin Steele arrived in 1837 to stake a claim. Brown explored the length of the river, not

¹ William W. Folwell, *A History of Minnesota*, 1:231-238 (St. Paul, 1921); Folwell, "Minnesota in 1849: An Imaginary Letter," *ante*, 6:40; J. F. Williams, "Memoir of Joseph R. Brown," in *Minnesota Historical Collections*, 3:201-204.

merely by paddling up and down it, but by trading and living with the Indians and studying the land. Inevitably, he absorbed the wild fascination of the region and felt its potential greatness. Once again his roving feet were halted. In 1838 he staked a claim, which he called "Dakotah," at the head of Lake St. Croix, and began to build a house of tamarack logs, with the dream that a great city of the future would grow up about it. In 1841 he took his family and the family of his sister, Mrs. Paul Carli, to Tamarack House, and so established the nucleus of future Stillwater.²

Spring came to Tamarack House in 1842 without a sign that this was a momentous season, that in this very place the spark of an idea would culminate to shape the destiny of the St. Croix. No one had planned it. No one knew about it. Life at Tamarack went on as usual, burdened and enlivened by occasional wayfarers. One of those who arrived that spring was Jacob Fisher. He was sent to St. Croix Falls as a millwright by a lumbering concern in St. Louis, and he found on his arrival that construction on the mill had not progressed to a point where he could begin his job. Alert and energetic, he was not one to wait in idleness. Instead, prompted by curiosity and glad of the opportunity for exploring, he drifted southward and in early winter arrived at Tamarack House, where he became a temporary member of the household.

While there, he walked about on the plateau one day in search of a stick of wood suitable for fashioning an ax handle, and came upon raccoon tracks in the snow. Intrigued by them, he was led inland and finally reached McKusick Lake, out of which Pine Creek, now known as Browns Creek, flowed in the direction from which he had come. Rambling thoughtfully about, he was impressed by the lay of the land, and finally returned home ruminating. A startling idea had begun to take vague shape, and when a new idea was born in Jacob Fisher's mind, he could not rest till he had fed it to maturity.

² Folwell, *Minnesota*, 1:233, 234; Edward D. Neill, *History of Washington County and the St. Croix Valley*, 113, 219, 498; Augustus B. Easton, *History of the St. Croix Valley*, 1:5, 8, 9 (Chicago, 1909); Maggie Orr O'Neill, *Early History of the Friendly Valley and the Falls of St. Croix*, 3 (St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, 1937). The latter is a compact little story written by the daughter of one of the founders of St. Croix Falls. She is still a resident of the place. For her information she has drawn in part on Neill, but she has interwoven his facts with much that she remembers or has heard.

In a few days he returned to the scene and carefully considered its possibilities. These were the times and this was the region to challenge speculation and court opportunities, and Fisher fitted perfectly into the times. He began to co-ordinate the facts at hand. Here was the source of a stream at a reasonable distance from an ideal river, at a promising height, but with a too gradual drop. Could it be directed on a steeper course than it now followed and give water power at its entrance to the river to turn a mill wheel? Why not? The idea flashed and grew. Why couldn't a canal be cut from the headwaters of the stream into the northern end of the lake and another to lead the stream out of its southern end, whence the fall to the river would be adequate?

Fired to action, he was soon staking out a claim directly south of Brown's. There the matter rested until June. Then Fisher was joined by Elam Greeley, who had been employed at St. Croix Falls, and together they captured and rafted logs which had escaped the dam above. Providentially, too, in this month Elias McKean and Calvin Leach, on a job of rafting lumber from Marine to St. Louis, found themselves windbound near Pine Creek and naturally went to Tamarack House.³

The four men were congenial companions, all interested in lumbering, and anxious to establish themselves independently as soon as possible. It was natural that talk of the days' activities should be heavily interlarded with opinions on lumbering, its progress and prospects, emphasized at last by a remark from Greeley that he would give more for a sawmill near Tamarack House than at any point near St. Croix Falls. Though earnest enough, he stated his thought casually, in view of its supposed impracticability. Jacob Fisher could not have wished for a better opening, and he declared that for a fair consideration he would show Greeley a millsite within a mile of the place. Greeley, however, who knew Browns Creek thoroughly, declared its use for a mill absurd and impossible.

But by this time Fisher had thoroughly digested his scheme, and he presented it with full assurance; though the others remained unconvinced, it is understandable that the matter must have proved a

³ Neill, *Washington County*, 498, 499, 512; Easton, *St. Croix Valley*, 1:17.

meaty subject to be chewed with considerable satisfaction. In the end, banter and argument merged naturally into the speculation that the plan might possibly be made to work. Before the men slept, it was agreed to look the situation over. The next day the party set out to view the scene of Fisher's fantastic dream, jesting unmercifully along the way. After a careful survey of the terrain, the group agreed enthusiastically that the plan appeared both feasible and inexpensive. But ways and means had to be found to execute it. Four speculative minds had been set seething, and, somehow, sometime, the project was a certainty.⁴

In the meantime, Greeley and Fisher went on rafting logs, and McKean and Leach proceeded to St. Louis with their lumber. There they discussed the mill plan with another lumbering man, John McKusick, to whom Fisher had already written about it. An apparent mischance crystallized it into a reality.

Shifting about as lumbering men were wont to do, McKusick and Greeley were, a short time earlier, working for a company in Marine. When the job was finished, they were obliged to take logs as part payment for their services. What were they to do with them? Joe Brown, called the first lumberman on the St. Croix, had floated logs down the St. Croix, but no logs had been rafted down the Mississippi, and such an undertaking seemed precarious. Emergencies are likely to furnish a spur to action, and in this case, the predicament proved to be the final stimulus needed to make the mill plan a reality. A sawmill on the spot seemed the ideal solution of the problem and a prospect for good future business.

The four interested loggers got together in earnest, and by October, 1843, the original plan had been thoroughly discussed and mapped out, funds had been obtained, and Fisher had agreed to sell the group his claim for three hundred dollars, with the provision that he be hired as millwright. On the twenty-sixth day of October a formal agreement of partnership for cutting logs was signed by John McKusick, Elam Greeley, Elias McKean, and Calvin F. Leach.⁵

⁴ Neill, *Washington County*, 499.

⁵ Neill, *Washington County*, 500, 501, 512; Easton, *St. Croix Valley*, 1:21; Folwell, *Minnesota*, 1:233.

No one dreamed of the development of a town about the mill-site, the idea of a mill being not only paramount but absolute. But a company must have a name, and a millsite must be called something. The name selected by mutual agreement was the Stillwater Lumber Company. It was suggested by John McKusick, perhaps with a bit of nostalgic sentiment for a village in his native state of Maine, with its remembered tang of pine and zest of lumbering. There must have been a flick of amusement, too, at the absurdity of locating a mill on the still waters of a lake. The Indian name for the place was "Kee-go-shagewa-minnie," meaning "the place of jumping fish." Like all Indian names, this one was literally appropriate. It refers to the fact that in the days before commercial fishing began, large sturgeons were plentiful in St. Croix Lake, where they could be seen jumping from the water in an effort to shake off the lamprey eels, which attached themselves to the fish. Though interesting, the Indian interpretation did not affect the name, which remained Stillwater.⁶

The machinery for the mill was obtained in St. Louis, and plans for canals were carried out. After going through a bank of fifty feet at the southern end of McKusick Lake, one led the water to a ravine which conducted it by a direct route through a flume down what is now Mulberry Street in Stillwater to the St. Croix. A fall of about a hundred and fifty feet was thus obtained, and the necessary power to drive the mill wheel was supplied. Work on the mill progressed rapidly, and by the spring of 1844 it was sawing logs.⁷

What had appeared to be a harebrained dream had materialized into a profitable reality when thought through by levelheaded businessmen. And thus another logging center was established on the St. Croix, one destined to rank high among lumber centers of the land.

Although the millsite is now occupied by other business and lies a block inland, in the days of untampered shore lines the mill stood

⁶ Neill, *Washington County*, 500; Easton, *St. Croix Valley*, 1:20; Orris E. Lee, "Legends, Traditions and Some History of Our Old Town." The latter item is a small scrapbook, in the Stillwater Public Library, containing undated articles by Judge Lee clipped from the *Trade News* of Stillwater.

⁷ Neill, *Washington County*, 513.

on the lake shore, lapped by high waters in the spring. Its busy saws produced about a wagonload of lumber a day. Years later, old men liked to tell how as boys they rode on the old water wheel, much to the dismay of McKusick. Whether or not that was true, they did ride for hours on the log carriage to the swishing music of the saws.

Should you visit Stillwater now, you would find no trace of the old mill, and few could tell you where it stood. The shuffling tread of time has made its site unrecognizable, but locally the mill will remain famous. For the original dam at the Falls of St. Anthony, it sawed lumber which was hauled by Anson Northrup across the country by way of White Bear Lake. It sawed lumber for the Sawyer House, for years the center for leading business and social affairs of Stillwater; for the Stillwater store owned by Isaac Staples in the early years of the town's prosperity; for buildings along the lake at Hudson and Prescott; for others in St. Paul and Hastings. It furnished lumber for increasing numbers of settlers' homes. And for most of these the mill manufactured sashes, doors, and blinds, in an addition built after its original activities had ceased. It also served for a time as a gristmill.

Among the well-known lumbermen connected with this early business venture were Louis E. Torinus, head sawyer, Albert Stimson, Jerry Stuart, Robert Hasty, Albion and J. N. Masterman, and William McKusick. Some of these men were destined to fame of their own. After a time John McKusick became sole owner.⁸

Steadily the creek turned the mill wheel to establish firmly the industry which was to build a city. Then, in 1852, occurred what appeared to be a major catastrophe in the life of both mill and settlement, but it proved itself a disguised blessing instead. Heavy spring rains caused unusual freshets. Browns Creek became a raging torrent in its steep incline. The walls of the southern canal were washed away, roads were torn out and clogged, and a tremendous wash of silt swept down into the mill. The machinery was covered and operations ceased. Clearance work began at once, greatly aided

⁸The foregoing paragraphs are based upon an account of the mill's destruction by fire on March 27, 1901, which appears under the title "Burned the Old Mill" in the *Stillwater Daily Gazette* for March 28, 1901, and in the weekly edition for April 3. See also Easton, *St. Croix Valley*, 1:19.

by water still gushing down the incline, and although steam had come into use and was operating Stillwater's second mill, the first mill was operating as usual in a short time.⁹ When the main building was eventually torn down, it had gone far beyond the dreams of its builders in serving its purpose.

In the *Stillwater Gazette* for November 6, 1907, is this pertinent article, which, though unsigned, is presented with the inimitable touch of A. B. Easton, founder and first editor of the paper:¹⁰

Through the courtesy of Web. McKusick we have come into possession of an ancient document, recently discovered by him in a long-forgotten crypt or other out-of-the-way niche or cranny in which were stored a number of manuscripts, now yellowed by the ravages of Time.

This document is designated as the "Stillwater Lumber Co.'s Time Book," this being the line at the head of the page dated October, 1843.

No name is given as to the identity of the person who did the writing, but he was a most excellent penman, who ever he was. Blue ink appears on two or three pages, the rest being in brown.

Each page is ruled and cross-ruled, so as to show the day[s] each worked, and each line across the page contains 31 squares.

The employes whose names appear on the first page are Jacob Fisher, Nelson Goodenough, Joseph Brewster, Isaac D. Weld, James Patten, A. J. Drake, William Middleton, Hugh McFadden, James Hickman, C. Simonds, and O. F. Strickland.

A note on the lower margin of the sheet explains that "A. J. Drake commenced work the 29th day of August, made full time in September," and that William Middleton began at the same date, and that Hugh McFadden commenced his labors simultaneously with the others, but in addition to this, he worked two Sundays in September. Which may be taken as a gratifying evidence that they did know when Sunday came.

On the November page the Simonds name does not appear, but several new ones are employed — Sylvester Statelar, E. W. Phillips, F. Brunaw, N. LeRoy, Jesse Taylor and H. H. Remy. Sixteen men, according to the records, were employed in the construction of the mill.

On the 10th of January, 1844, Paulette Provost appeared and was set to work. At the end of three days he evidently became discouraged, as the time sheet shows, he on[ly] got in a few half days and the word "settled" appears opposite his name.

At the lower margin of the page under "Remarks" we find this: "4th, Leroy killed the Dunn ox; 16, Jesse Taylor left for St. Peters."

Lemuel Bolles and James M. Bierman are added to the force in Febru-

⁹ Neill, *Washington County*, 508.

¹⁰ The article appears under the title "Aged and Venerable Manuscript" in the weekly edition of the *Gazette*. Much the same account appears in Easton's *St. Croix Valley*, 1:18.

ary, and the "Remarks" are only to the effect that "F. Brunaw is with Middleton ditching."

In March the force was still further augmented, the number reaching 22. The marginal "Remarks" begin to assume considerable importance. For instance: "13th, Let the water on the wheel; 28th, Started one saw for a few revolutions; 30th, The first board cut in the McKusick mill."

April is designated as the "Backwater Month" by the time-keeper, who seems to be a new man on the clerical force, and, as compared with his predecessor, writes an atrocious hand. The "Remarks" are not seemingly of great significance: 1st, Greeley and McKean up Apple river; 6th, Steamboat Otter at St. Peters; 9th, Greeley and McKean up Apple river; C. Carli and H. H. Remy gone with their raft; 11th, Lemuel Bolles quit; 18th, St. Boat New Haven arrived.

The merry month of May glided by without incident, at least nothing appears of record. And likewise June.

On every page up to July the name of Jacob Fisher has led the list. . . .

The reason for Fisher's prominence is obvious. The mill was his brain child, and as millwright, he kept it in parental care. Besides, no one was more confident than he of the possibilities of the St. Croix Valley, or more determined to develop them. As time went on, his name was on the public tongue in Stillwater and its surroundings almost as much as Joseph R. Brown's, and his sagacious mind was as active.

Easton continues his notes from the old time book as follows:

At the foot of the July page we find this entry, written in bold letters, as if the hand that formed the words felt the pride that naturally comes from the realization of something accomplished.

"July 6, First raft left Stillwater for St. Louis, Missouri."

This was supposedly a lumber raft, as in the records of Stephen Hanks' long and strenuous life as pilot on these northern streams, it is stated that he took out the first log raft for the Stillwater Lumber Co., in the early summer of 1844, and also, later in the season, took a lumber raft for the same concern.

In August the force of men was increased to 38, and in October to 46, at which date our story ends; at least we come to the last page of our manuscript.

Contrary to expectations, a settlement was established. During the first half of 1844 all indications pointed to a temporary camp with buildings far inadequate for the housing of the growing business. As a site for a town, the place seemed wholly undesirable, being but a marshy, bowl-like enclosure, with high bluffs at the back

slashed by several deep ravines and bordered on the east by an unstable shore line, which changed considerably with the seasonal stage of the river. This was not a choice site for a town, but the broad and placid waters of Lake St. Croix made a perfect situation for sawmills, with room for rafts and logging operations of all kinds.

As usual in such exploits, the founders had planned on quick returns and temporary residence. As usual, they had been as unprepared for the hypnotic spell of this vast, free land as for the unbounded exultation which possessed them as their work progressed. As usual, they had failed to realize the need for home associations. Within a year, they knew individually and surely that they were forever part of this new world and that a settlement was a necessity. Evidently, they knew how to combine persuasiveness with the sense of adventure inherent in all youth. Women began to arrive.

The year 1845 was an important one, with eight women on the scene: Mrs. Paul Carli, a Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Andrew Mackey, Mrs. Anson Northup, Mrs. Jesse Taylor, Mrs. William Cove, Mrs. S. Nelson, and Miss Sarah L. Judd. The village was organized. John McKusick built the first dwelling house. He was elected mayor. A post office was established, and Greeley was made postmaster. In 1847 John McKusick married Phoebe Greeley; and in 1850 Hannah Hinman, one of Stillwater's most influential pioneer women, became Mrs. Elam Greeley.¹¹

The town gained a real impetus in 1848, when there was a flood of immigration. New buildings went up in a hurry. Streets were improved. The quagmire of Main Street was rudely covered with mill slabs. Lying about twelve feet lower than it is today, this street was completely flooded in times of high water. Consequently, homes and business houses had to be built up on stilts and approached by steps. It is said that in one especially wet season, Joe Carli rowed a bateau up and down the street with blazing torches in the bow.¹² Cross streets naturally could reach only to the hills at the west, and they were scarcely a block long. But in spite of such limitations, the place began to lose its camp aspect and continued to grow and im-

¹¹ Neill, *Washington County*, 506, 576; *Stillwater Daily Gazette*, October 26, 1900.

¹² Easton, *St. Croix Valley*, 60, 61.

prove, emerging from the cluster of crude cabins and shanties of 1844 into a village.

Nature took a hand in improving the townsite in the calamitous torrent of 1852, for the great freshet which temporarily stilled the McKusick mill wheel washed tons of earth into the marshy hollow, tore out roads, and filled in others, giving the people an idea for constructive changes. First of all, Main Street was built up, and as years went by the water line was pushed back foot by foot, until today it parallels Main Street two blocks away. In the meantime, clogged streets were excavated and some of them rerouted.

For years the only way to reach the South Hill was by a winding road up through a steep ravine, now disappeared, in the place where the gas works later were built. The old government road followed Second Street to Cherry, ran west for two blocks, and then wound itself to join the road to Marine. Third Street existed only in portions and was cut by very steep cross streets, one of them leading through the Myrtle Street ravine toward the west, known then and for many years later as the St. Paul Road. The high Myrtle Street hill reached down to Third, and there it towered fifty feet above the site where the First Methodist Church now stands. When this hill was cut back, workmen unearthed a huge tusk of some prehistoric animal, which caused excited speculation and was sent eventually to the Minnesota Historical Society in St. Paul. In time, streets parallel to the river were cut through on higher levels, and the bluff was cut back at its base for a real Main Street all along the water front. This is evident in the Stillwater of today.¹³

As improvements progressed, excavators sometimes dug up evidences of the 1852 flood. Years later, workmen digging at Myrtle and Main unearthed two huge logs, preserved as fresh as new. Undoubtedly, they had been covered by the landslide when it moved part of the west hill downward with a great commotion.¹⁴ This not

¹³ Neill, *Washington County*, 509, 554; Mrs. E. Rhodes, "Stillwater as It Was 'Befo' the War," in *Stillwater Messenger*, January 14, 1905. The present writer's information about the development of Stillwater is based, in addition to the works cited, upon familiarity with its present plan, upon observation, and upon interviews with a number of early residents, including Mr. Lyman Sutton. The tusk probably was destroyed in the fire which demolished the Minnesota Capitol in 1881.

¹⁴ See an unidentified clipping in a scrapbook kept by Mrs. Samuel Bloomer, a

only emphasizes the amount of hill taken down, but indicates the waterline at the time of the eruption.

A human bit of local interest was uncovered in the same manner. The *Stillwater Messenger* of June 24, 1905, says:

We can give a good guess as to who was the probable owner of the cook stove unearthed while workmen were excavating for the basement of the new shoe factory, a few weeks ago. Thomas W. Welch, one of our oldest residents, says that there used to be a little barn, belonging to John McKusick, about where the shoe factory is now being built. That neighborhood was headquarters for ball playing and the boys were in the habit of climbing into the loft of the barn to watch the ball game. The barn was stored with old truck of different kinds and Mr. Welch thinks it is more than likely that the stove was in the barn—stored there by Mr. McKusick—and when the flood of mud and water covered everything up in that section of the town, it buried the barn and stove with it. Mr. Welch gathers this impression from the fact that some fifty years ago he remembers the barn, stored furniture, and had a season ticket to the loft of the barn that enabled him to view the ball games to a good advantage.

What a warm link with the far past, when boys yelled their approbation or derision at the progress of a ball game as they do today, and nearly fell or pushed each other from the loft in their excitement!

Although the McKusick mill carried on into the 1870's, steam had triumphed over the mill wheel by 1850, giving the later mills a great advantage. The Sawyer and Heaton mill of 1850, the Schulenburg and Boeckler mill of 1853, the Hersey, Staples and Company mill of 1854, and others followed in rapid succession, until eleven linked five miles of lake front.¹⁵ Their buzzing activity constantly increased the output of all kinds of lumber, fed by millions of giant logs. Their enormous mill and rafting activities called other industries to life. Boat building swung into high tide. Iron works flourished. More and improved flour mills were necessary. Business in general expanded. Mills buzzed. Shops hummed and hammered. Steamboats

Stillwater pioneer. The present item is in volume 3, page 77, of the books, which are in the Stillwater Public Library.

¹⁵ Neill, *Washington County*, 513-519. The total number of mills was ascertained by interviewing old residents of Stillwater, especially loggers. They usually begin with the second mill, for by the time it was built the first was engaging in grist milling and the manufacturing of sashes and doors. The work of the first mill did not meet the speed of steam power.

took the place of paddling raftsmen and maneuvered huge rafts of logs and lumber down the St. Croix in an endless stream. Lusty, nimble-footed rivermen peopled the scene. Gay excursion steamers made their periodic trips to Taylors Falls. It is understandable that old settlers recall with gnawing nostalgia the panorama of activity and color that paraded daily between the river's wooded banks.

Because of its advantage on the broad, smooth waters of St. Croix Lake, which facilitated lumbering maneuvers, Stillwater outgrew all the other river towns almost at once. "Queen of the St. Croix" it was called, and it was expected to become the metropolis of the Midwest. But when the vast timber lands gave out, the silent pall which every other lumbering city had experienced settled over Stillwater. St. Paul began to flourish as the terminal of trade routes, and flour mills brought fame to Minneapolis, leaving Stillwater out of the race to face its slow adjustment to a great change.

Walter Reed in Minnesota

Bertha L. Heilbron

IN THE EARLY SPRING of 1892 all was bustle and commotion in the little town of Browns Valley, between Lakes Traverse and Big Stone on the western boundary of Minnesota. The facilities of the village were taxed to their limit as settlers poured in or camped on its outskirts awaiting the opening of the Lake Traverse Reservation. This portion of the Sisseton and Wahpeton Indian Reservation—nearly six hundred thousand acres of fertile prairie land—was located immediately across the Minnesota border in North and South Dakota. Temporarily, Browns Valley was the gateway to a section of the unsettled West.

Under a presidential proclamation, the reservation was scheduled to open on April 15. To prevent eager land seekers from breaking across the line and attempting to stake claims before that date, the United States Army was called upon for aid. On April 1 Browns Valley took on a military aspect with the arrival of two companies of the Third United States Infantry from Fort Snelling—Company A under Captain John W. Hannay and Company E under Captain Melville C. Wilkinson. A Browns Valley newspaper, in announcing the arrival of the troops, notes that "Surgeon Reid is in charge of the hospital corps, which is fully equipped with ambulance, etc."¹

This cryptic statement proves to be one of the many references in obscure sources to the Minnesota sojourn of Dr. Walter Reed, the distinguished bacteriologist whose name will be forever associated with the conquest of yellow fever. Although his true interests were centered in the laboratory, he helped to guard an unsettled frontier area in the chilly dampness of a Dakota spring. Some idea of the stirring scenes he must have witnessed on that mid-April day

¹ United States Commissioner of Indian Affairs, *Reports*, 1892, p. 81, 728; *Browns Valley Foot Prints*, April 1, 1892. In the fall of 1898 Wilkinson was killed in a skirmish with the Pillager Indians at Leech Lake. See Pauline Wold, "Some Recollections of the Leech Lake Uprising," *ante*, p. 146.

of 1892 is reflected in a contemporary newspaper account. It records that long before noon the bluff which marked the reservation line west of Browns Valley was covered with teams and "positions were at a premium." Finally, "at 12 o'clock sharp the guards fired pistols which was the signal to move on," and this was followed by a "grand stampede and rush." That the soldiers were successful in keeping the peace is evident, for on April 16 the United States Indian agent to the Sisseton wrote gratefully to Captain Wilkinson: "All is well that ends well. The Lake Traverse Reservation is now open. For valuable services of your command you have the thanks of the people. I am now convinced that the U. S. Troops are no longer required at this Reservation."²

Reed's participation in the opening of the Sisseton and Wahpeton lands was only one episode in a long period of service as an army surgeon in the frontier West—a period that occupied some sixteen years of his professional life and took him to no less than fifteen western military posts. In June, 1875, six years after receiving his medical degree, the young Virginian was commissioned an assistant surgeon with the rank of first lieutenant in the United States Army. A year later he was sent to Fort Lowell, Arizona. While he was stationed at Fort Robinson, Nebraska, in 1884, he counted among his patients "Old Jules" Sandoz, the hero of a best-selling biography of the past decade. Under army orders Reed moved from frontier post to frontier post, spending his energies in caring for ailing soldiers and settlers alike, for he was stationed chiefly in sparsely settled areas where physicians were available, if at all, only in connection with the military. According to one biographer, it was in frontier garrisons, in surroundings "unfavorable in opportunities for study and intellectual contacts but rich in experiences calling for initiative and ingenuity," that Reed "laid the foundations for his career as a scientist."³

² *Inter-Lake Tribune* (Browns Valley), April 16, 1892; William McKusick to Captain M. C. Wilkinson, April 16, 1892. The letter is in a volume of Company Letters Received, 1885-1895, p. 117, among the archives of the Third United States Infantry, now in the custody of the Minnesota Historical Society.

³ Howard A. Kelly, *Walter Reed and Yellow Fever*, 67 (New York, 1906); James A. Phalen, "Walter Reed," in *Dictionary of American Biography*, 15:460; Mari Sandoz, *Old Jules*, 43-56 (Boston, 1935).

Eventually, however, Reed began to chafe under the routine of army life and to long for wider horizons and the opportunity for further professional study. In 1890, a decade after he was promoted to the rank of captain, he applied for a leave of absence. His request was not granted, but it led to an order to report to Baltimore, where he became attending surgeon and examiner of recruits, with the privilege of continuing his medical studies in Johns Hopkins University. Reed's years of isolation on the frontier had seen the remarkable discoveries of Pasteur and Koch—discoveries that revolutionized the practice of medicine. Guided by Dr. William Welsh, Reed turned with eagerness to the new field, specializing in bacteriology. But the Baltimore opportunity was of short duration. At the close of a year, in October, 1891, he was ordered to Fort Snelling, then a Midwestern post far removed from centers of scientific study. On November 10 he took up his duties in the hospital of the military post.⁴

During the nine months that followed, Reed doubtless resided at the fort, for his son, Major General Walter L. Reed, recalls "going to the High School in St. Paul from Fort Snelling for a short period." The records of Central High School of St. Paul indicate that young Reed was enrolled in 1892 and 1893. In August, 1892, Dr. Reed was transferred to St. Paul, where he served for a year as attending surgeon and examiner of recruits on the staff of the commanding general of the Department of Dakota. The headquarters of this military division, which embraced Minnesota, North Dakota, most of South Dakota, Montana, and Fort Yellowstone, Wyoming, were then located in St. Paul, with offices in a building at the north end of the Robert Street Bridge. From the scientist's point of view, the St. Paul post had but a slight advantage over that at Fort Snelling, for the "only laboratory equipment provided consisted of a few test

⁴ Kelly, *Walter Reed*, 63; *Dictionary of American Biography*, 15:460. The exact dates of Reed's service at Fort Snelling and St. Paul were supplied in letters to the writer from Major General J. A. Ulio, adjutant general of the United States, May 18, 1942, and from Miss Laura Wood of Philadelphia, June 23, 1942. Miss Wood, who derived her information from the archives of the surgeon general's office in the National Archives, Washington, is the author of a biography entitled *Walter Reed: Doctor in Uniform* (New York, 1943). See also Department of Dakota, *Roster of Troops*, January, June, September, 1892, January, 1893.

tubes." While he was stationed in St. Paul, Reed lived at the Albion, now the Angus Hotel.⁵

It was during his two years of residence in Minnesota, immediately following the stimulation of a year of study in Baltimore, that Reed's scientific talents began to mature and his researches to bear fruit in the form of publications. His first published work, a paper on erysipilas, appeared in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* in 1892. It was closely followed in the spring of 1893 by his "Remarks on the Cholera Spirillum," which was published in a pioneer Minnesota medical journal, the *Northwestern Lancet* of St. Paul.⁶ Reed's second paper reflects a scientific activity of still another type, for it was prepared as an address and was delivered before the Ramsey County Medical Society on March 27, 1893. In view of the fact that Hamburg and northern Germany were suffering from a serious outbreak of Asiatic cholera, the subject was timely, and the local physicians welcomed an opportunity to hear it discussed by a man of growing reputation as a bacteriologist. They appreciated, too, the advantage of seeing the cultures of cholera bacilli with which the speaker illustrated his remarks. Reed probably obtained the cultures from a colleague in the army medical corps, Colonel George Miller Sternberg, who served as consultant on the disinfection of ships reaching the New York quarantine station during the Hamburg epidemic. He has been given credit for the fact that cholera did not spread in the United States, although the disease did reach its shores. On the day immediately following the St. Paul meeting Reed extended to Sternberg by letter his "heartiest thanks for the cultures which arrived in good shape, a few days ago." There can be little doubt that the reference is to the cholera cultures displayed on March 27 before the meeting of Ramsey County doctors in the Ryan Hotel, St. Paul, with Dr. John F. Fulton presiding. The

⁵ General Walter L. Reed to the writer, April 12, 1942; Department of Dakota, *Roster of Troops*, January, 1892; *St. Paul Directory*, 1893; Dr. Louis B. Wilson, "The Development of Public Health Medicine in Minnesota," in Minnesota Academy of Science, *Proceedings*, 4:9 (1936). Dr. Wilson's article appears also in Staff Meetings of the Mayo Clinic, *Bulletins*, 12:775-783 (December 8, 1937).

⁶ Kelly, *Walter Reed*, 69; M. E. M. Walker, *Pioneers of Public Health*, 220 (New York, 1930); *Northwestern Lancet*, 13:161-164 (May 1, 1893). For a list of Reed's published works, see Wood, *Doctor in Uniform*, 268.

Minnesotans expressed their appreciation at the close of the meeting, when a "vote of thanks was extended to Dr. Reed for his kindness in showing his cultures of cholera bacilli and giving such a clear exposition of the subject."⁷

The meeting had an interesting sequel which was not without importance for the future careers both of Reed and of a member of his audience. Among the fifty-three people who listened to the army surgeon's remarks on Asiatic cholera was a man who had been teaching biology in the St. Paul High School for five years and who was also pursuing his medical studies in the University of Minnesota. He was Louis B. Wilson, who later gained distinction by organizing and developing the laboratories of the Mayo Clinic and by directing the Mayo Foundation. In the course of the evening Dean Perry H. Millard of the university medical school introduced Wilson to Reed, describing the young Minnesotan as "a man who had a laboratory." Dr. Wilson recalls that Reed responded "with what for him was real enthusiasm." The introduction opened up for him an opportunity to work once more in a laboratory and to continue his bacteriological researches, since the St. Paul High School, according to Dr. Wilson, could boast of an "unusually good biological laboratory."⁸

Thereafter Reed "made much use of the high school laboratory." With Dr. Wilson's assistance, he "improvised fairly effective bacteriological apparatus—mostly from gas ovens and boilers inherited from a discontinued Domestic Science Department!" Working with this crude equipment, Dr. Wilson "learned from Doctor Reed the elements of bacteriology." It was largely as a result of this experience that he was chosen to assist Dr. Frank F. Wesbrook when, in 1896,

⁷ The record of the meeting at which Reed spoke is to be found in the Minutes of the Ramsey County Medical Society, now preserved in its library in St. Paul. In the *Northwestern Lancet*, 13:161, the meeting is dated March 28, 1893; this is doubtless an error. For Reed's letter to Sternberg, see Martha L. Sternberg, *George Miller Sternberg: A Biography*, 126 (Chicago, 1920). The letter reflects Reed's impatience to devote himself to scientific pursuits. "I should be very glad to give more time to bacteriology," he writes, "but, alas, my dear doctor, when most interested I must stop for practical things, so that I can only do the merest 'dabbling.'" See also James M. Phalen, "George Miller Sternberg," in *Dictionary of American Biography*, 17:592.

⁸ Wilson, in Minnesota Academy of Science, *Proceedings* 4:9; Helen Clapesattle, *The Doctors Mayo*, 442-444, 643 (Minneapolis, 1941). The name of the St. Paul High School later was changed to Central High School.

he became bacteriologist and director of the laboratory of the Minnesota state board of health.

Much of the work accomplished by the two scientists in the simple little high school laboratory related to the "diagnosis of diphtheria from cultures made from swabs of patients' throats"—a procedure newly inaugurated by Dr. William H. Park of New York. Dr. Wilson tells the following story about the joint effort: "Doctor Reed and I got from Doctor Park a sample box, holding two test tubes, one containing a sterile swab and the other a solidified serum culture medium. We went into our own pockets,—in which there was very little money!—for funds to have made for us at a local box factory one hundred boxes for diphtheria culture outfits. These we distributed to several physicians in St. Paul asking as a favor that swabs from throats of cases of suspected diphtheria be sent to us." Dr. Wilson believes that the work he and Dr. Reed did on the cultures thus obtained represents the "first attempt at the examination of throat cultures for *Bacillus diphtheriae* west of New York." It is significant that immediately after Reed was transferred to Washington in the autumn of 1893, his interests centered about the study of diphtheria and its treatment. Early in 1894 he was invited to participate in a discussion before the Medical Society of the District of Columbia on the "Prevention and Control of Diphtheria."⁹

Reed's year of military service in St. Paul came to a close on August 31, 1893, after he had received an appointment as curator of the Army Medical Museum and professor of bacteriology in the newly organized Army Medical School in Washington. For the opportunity to devote his energies to science, Reed was indebted to his friend Dr. Sternberg, who was named surgeon general of the United States Army in the spring of 1893. Reed's enthusiastic approval of the choice is reflected in a letter from St. Paul, addressed to Sternberg on May 30, 1893. After congratulating him upon his appointment, Reed continues: "When I think that it places at the head of the [medical] corps the one man who preeminently stands

⁹ Wilson, in Minnesota Academy of Science, *Proceedings*, 4:9, 10; Kelly, *Walter Reed*, 70. Dr. John M. Armstrong of St. Paul, who attended Central High School in the early 1890's, knew Reed and his son, and can recall the bacteriologist's work in the school laboratory.

forth as the representative of progressive scientific medicine and that it means that the fossil age has passed, I have an irresistible desire to toss my very hat in the air."¹⁰

After removing to Washington, Reed was advanced in military rank to major and surgeon. The nine years that elapsed before his untimely death in 1902 were marked by monumental discoveries leading to the control of typhoid and yellow fever. Today the results of his work in the interest of public health are increasing the efficiency and easing the lot of millions of Americans engaged in tropical warfare. That Reed's two years of service in Minnesota have been almost completely overlooked by his biographers is somewhat surprising, for they were anything but unimportant from the scientific viewpoint.¹¹ With his year of intensive study in Baltimore, they served as an interlude between his frontier experience and his great period of scientific productivity.

¹⁰ Sternberg, *George Miller Sternberg*, 131.

¹¹ Dr. Kelly, in his *Walter Reed*, 67, passes over this period in Reed's career with the comment that "In October, 1891, Reed was sent to Dakota [*sic*], and remained there until 1893." Miss Wood devotes part of a chapter to the main outlines of the Minnesota episode. See her *Doctor in Uniform*, 150-154.

The Carver County German Reading Society

Hildegard Binder Johnson

LITERARY SOCIETIES were a common feature of frontier cultural life in Minnesota and elsewhere. In Carver County such societies were established previous to 1885 at Chaska, Waconia, Watertown, Young America, and Carver, where there were both German and Swedish groups; and later they were organized also at Hancock and East Union.¹ The German Reading Society of Carver was said to be the earliest of these organizations, and it took great pride in that distinction. More is known of this organization than of other similar Carver County societies, for both its library and its records have been preserved. They are now in the museum of the Carver County Historical Society at Mayer.²

It was natural that a German society should be organized at an early date in Carver County, where about half of the pioneer settlers were German immigrants. The Germans were represented by active religious groups in a number of communities, with large numbers of Catholics at Chaska and Waconia, churches of several denominations at Benton, a Lutheran church of the Missouri Synod at Young America, and Evangelical Lutheran and Catholic churches at Carver. In addition, the German settlers at Carver included a group of

¹ *Valley Herald* (Chaska), December 21, 1871, May 14, 1885. Some of the material used in the present article was assembled in 1941, when the author made a study of the Germans in Minnesota under a grant-in-aid from the Social Science Research Council.

² The manuscript records of the Carver County Deutscher Leseverein consist of two volumes of minutes, dating from 1869 to 1907; an account book for the period from April, 1866, to 1932; a notebook containing the names of members with the call numbers of books they withdrew, and some clippings, obviously from the *Carver County Journal*, of which no file is available; and a volume in which are listed the names of members from 1921 to 1935. Notices published in contemporary newspapers have been used to supplement the material in the records. Unless otherwise specified, all data presented herein are based upon the society's records. The author is indebted to Mr. O. D. Sell, president of the Carver County Historical Society, for making the records available and for assisting in the compilation of a list of the books in the reading society's library. For a brief note on the organization's library and records, see *ante*, 23:294.

liberal freethinkers, many of whom were members of the local reading society.

There is some question about the date of the organization of the Carver County German Reading Society. A scarlet flag with gold embroidery that served as its emblem, and that is preserved with its records, bears the inscription "Carver County Deutscher Leseverein, founded in 1858, incorporated in 1865." Later the members themselves seemed uncertain whether to date their society back to 1865, when it was incorporated, or to 1866, when a constitution was adopted. The society probably functioned earlier, for its accounts show that it had need for a bookcase as early as 1866 and that in the same year it spent seventy dollars for books. The earliest records, however, are those for 1866.³

The constitution of 1866 was published in booklet form by the *Carver Free Press* in 1890, with a catalogue of the society's library. A committee appointed in 1877 to devise a new constitution was dismissed "because it was unable to report anything." The only change adopted before 1890 reduced the membership fee from forty cents a quarter to a dollar a year, in accordance with a resolution of 1887.

The aim of the Carver County Deutscher Leseverein, as defined in the constitution, was "to promote knowledge, morality, enlightenment and improvement of the mind," for which purpose "a library was procured," and "lectures, debates, and evening entertainments were to be arranged." The officers—a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a librarian—were to be elected annually. The secretary, who was instructed to keep records of meetings and membership lists, to collect fees, and to conduct the society's correspondence, was freed from the payment of dues. The librarian was expected to keep a catalogue and supervise the withdrawal and return of books. The accounts reveal that he received eight dollars annually for his services. He does not seem to have kept regular

³ The society's twenty-fifth anniversary was marked on March 2, 1890, when Hermann Muehlberg, the owner and editor of the *Carver Free Press*, reported that it was formed in 1866. The fortieth anniversary was celebrated in 1906, and the forty-second in 1907. A program for the latter occasion bears the dates "1865-1907." The bookplate used by the society states that it was "Founded on February 24, 1866, incorporated on June 22, 1882."

office hours, and he probably served readers whenever they called and happened to find him at home.

The library was housed successively in the homes of members, in the office of the *Carver Free Press*, and after 1903 in the society's own building. Only members were allowed to borrow books. If they were kept out longer than four weeks, a penalty of not more than twenty-five cents was to be paid. A member who failed to pay dues for more than six months was to be dropped. Each member residing in Carver was required to attend six meetings a year; if he resided elsewhere, the number was four. New members had to be approved by a majority of two-thirds. Women over eighteen years of age could become members and borrow books, but they were not allowed to participate in meetings or business transactions. A meeting was to be held on the first Sunday of each month at 2:00 P.M. The order of business at meetings, as defined in the constitution of 1890, prescribed the following procedure: reading of the minutes and correspondence, reports of committees, examination of bills, decisions on membership, report by the librarian, payment of fees, presentation of financial accounts, consideration of business "zum Allgemeinen Besten,"—that is, of a charitable nature—and adjournment.

The constitution was not always followed. Meetings were rare in the summer and fall, and for several years the only meeting was held in March. This general meeting, which usually was followed by a banquet and a ball, became a traditional feature of the society's activities until the organization was dissolved in 1935.

The attendance was even more irregular than the meetings. Twelve members signed the constitution in 1866; a list of May, 1872, names twenty-two; seventeen members were listed as "in good standing" in 1885, which meant that they had paid their dues. In 1904, a year after the society acquired its own building, the membership increased to thirty-two; there were forty-two members in 1927, and forty-seven about 1930. The number of those attending even the general meeting rarely reached ten during the first decades. This figure also increased after 1903; twenty-three members attended the March meeting of 1904. Even the officers sometimes failed to

appear; in December, 1886, only two members convened, and they adjourned after an hour. Members from outside Carver were few; one lived in Chaska and one in Shakopee. The latter was struck from the list in 1870, after he had kept books for many years. Visitors from Hopkins, Chaska, and Dahlgren attended the March meeting in 1918. By 1931, residents of Mankato, Hinckley, and Cologne had joined the society. The rule that every member should attend six meetings a year was never observed.

As irregular as the meetings was the payment of dues. In 1887 half of the members had not paid their fees; two years later one member owed \$6.80, which covered his fees for more than six years. Those attending meetings frequently asked the secretary to send notices to negligent members, reminding them of their obligations and of the next meeting. No serious attempt ever was made to limit readers to the four weeks allotted for a book. Had this been done, the librarian should have noted the dates of withdrawal, a practice that was followed only for a short time in the 1890's. In 1897 he complained that "several members kept their books for many years." Two years later 33 of the 414 volumes in the library were missing and 24 were out and could be traced. Missing books had to be struck from the library's list. The catalogue of 1890 lists 395 titles, but the call numbers run up to 517. No penalty seems to have been exacted at any time. In 1871, however, a member was asked to have six books that he had damaged rebound.

The names of new members always were proposed in accordance with the constitution and ballots were taken. All who were admitted before 1932 paid the entrance fee of \$2.50. Never was a voice raised against a regular or an honorary member. Seven of the latter were elected at various times, and all presented books to the society's library. Certain individuals doubtless were proposed for honorary membership because of the possibility that they would make donations.

Fritz Schütz, one of the reading society's honorary members, is typical of a certain group of German Americans in the later decades of the nineteenth century. He was born in 1833, the son of a Protestant minister in Baden, and he attended a university. Later he joined

the freethinkers' movement in Heidelberg. Because of difficulties with the authorities, he had to give up a position as a schoolteacher in 1866. After serving as speaker of a freethinkers' organization in Thuringia, he accepted a call from the freethinkers' society at Philadelphia in 1871. But Schütz preferred the uncertainty and freedom enjoyed by a traveling lecturer and free-lance writer of semiphilosophical tracts to any circumscribed activity. By 1882 he had given more than eight hundred lectures in a hundred and forty different American towns before some ninety Turner and thirty freethinkers' societies. With a Lutheran minister in Watertown, Wisconsin, he debated publicly on the state of the church; with a rabbi in St. Louis, on the existence of God; with communists in Milwaukee, on the free-soil question; and with a minister in Baltimore, on immortality.⁴

In 1876 the society invited Schütz to give a lecture for which he was paid fifteen dollars. A year later, when he decided "to settle with his family in a simple rural community where life was less disturbed and expensive and from where he could arrange his annual tours," he chose Carver, and there he became the first honorary member of the German Reading Society. It gave Schütz five dollars with which to buy children's books. The only children's party ever mentioned in the society's records was given at Christmas in 1878, and the proceeds went to the young people's library. Children who attended a Sunday school conducted by Schütz were allowed to use the books. In February, 1879, upon Schütz's suggestion, the society ordered twenty-five copies of Carl Dorfflinger's *Six Letters to a Pious Man* and a hundred copies of a booklet entitled *Anti-Syllabus*, antireligious pamphlets that could be purchased in quantities at a low price. It was decided that members should "distribute or possibly resell" them at their discretion. This was the only attempt made by the German Reading Society "to promote knowledge, morality and enlightenment" by distributing literature or teaching. Schütz died in needy circumstances in 1888. The reading society voted to send his widow fifty

⁴ Information on Schütz's career is to be found in the prefaces to his books — two volumes of *Das Heil der Völker* (Milwaukee, 1879, 1880), and *Unsterblichkeit* (Carver, Minnesota, 1882). These small and inexpensive volumes can be found in many a Turner library; the first two thousand copies of *Unsterblichkeit* ("Immortality") were sold in less than three months.

dollars, but a cautious member proposed the reconsideration of this generous decision, and it was not until fifteen months later that Mrs. Schütz was given twenty-five dollars.

Two other charitable acts are recorded in the society's history. In 1877, twelve dollars were collected for a sick member who does not seem to have been in need of the money, for it was returned to the treasury. At the death of another honorary member, Louis Sülter, a watchmaker, twenty dollars were contributed to the funeral expenses.

Among other radical freethinkers besides Schütz who spoke before the reading society was Michael Biron of Milwaukee. Theodor Hielscher, who spoke in 1871 on "Primitive German History before the Migration of Nations," had participated in the German revolution of 1848 and was a former editor of the radical Indianapolis *Freie Presse*, and of the *Freie Presse* of Minneapolis. In 1883 Franz Klepper lectured on "Gallilaea and Contemporaries." The usual stipend was ten dollars for a lecture. An attempt failed to sell enough tickets at fifty cents each to raise thirty dollars with which to pay a Chinese lecturer.

In its early years the society was interested in debating, and its members adopted a resolution to devote a special meeting on the second Sunday of every month to discussion. Such meetings, however, were never held. Among the topics for discussion proposed in 1875 were: "What is stronger, money or love?" "Is the Christian religion the mother of all human education and improvement?" and "Should a man sitting in a boat with his wife and mother throw the mother overboard if it should become necessary to dispose of one passenger?" Other literary associations in Carver County discussed, for example, the abolition of capital punishment and of prize-fighting, and the question whether the warrior or the statesman had done more for the United States.⁵ These themes were more closely related to American life than those selected by the German group. After the 1870's the interest in debate faded.

The men who joined the society in its first decades left Germany in the 1850's.⁶ They were craftsmen and merchants with literary

⁵ *Valley Herald*, December 21, 1871, February 12, 1891, March 1, 1894.

⁶ The names of eighteen of the twenty-six individuals who were members of the

tastes strongly influenced by the "Young Germany" group, of which Heinrich Heine and Ludwig Börne were the most famous representatives. These writers preferred to express themselves in the political essay. After the revolution of 1848 failed, many a lesser disciple of the group went into exile. On foreign soil they carried on by writing and lecturing their struggle for freedom, republicanism, and the rule of reason. These writers and their readers began as idealists and finished as foot-loose intellectuals. The high ambition to reform and to create a system of ethics not based on specific dogmas degenerated into controversies over politics and debates on ridiculous topics, examples of which are cited above. The books in the library of the German Reading Society show that these German immigrants remained faithful to the literary leaders of the Young Germany group, but that they nevertheless shared the popular taste of the public in the fatherland for the worthless fiction of the period.

The Carver County Reading Society's library might be divided into four sections. The first consists of the classics like Lessing, Schiller, and Goethe. Alexander von Humboldt's *Cosmos* was donated by a friend in Chicago with the biting, yet illuminating, inscription: "To the Carver County Deutscher Leseverein in the hope that light will be shed by this society into the priest-ridden darkness which rules mightily in Carver County." Complete editions of Heine, Börne, the radical and influential freethinker Ludwig Feuerbach, the works of the materialistic philosopher Ludwig Büchner, a German translation of Darwin, and the poems of Ferdinand Freiligrath, the German bard of freedom, constitute what might be called the left wing of this section of great and influential literature. The selection speaks for itself. The great romanticists, including poets like Joseph von Eichendorff, Eduard Mörike, Ludwig Uhland, Friedrich Rückert, and Franz Grillparzer, are absent. They are the same writers

reading society in 1869 and 1872 are to be found in the manuscript census schedules of 1870 and 1875. They were born in Prussia, Baden, Württemberg, Hessen, and Bavaria. Their ages and birthplaces and the ages of their children give an approximate idea of the dates when they left Germany. Their occupations include that of blacksmith, plasterer, brewer, potter, clerk, saloon and boardinghouse keeper, merchant, and watchmaker. Only one farmer is listed among them. Population schedules of the federal census of 1870 and of the state census of 1875 are in the custody of the Minnesota Historical Society.

whose works were neglected by the wide reading public in Germany after the middle of the nineteenth century.

The second and largest section in the Carver County library is made up of fiction. There are complete German editions of Eugène Sue, the French radical author of such enormously successful novels as *The Wandering Jew* and *The Mysteries of Paris*, and of Alexander Dumas, the elder. Represented by some of their works are Friedrich Spielhagen, whose novels are liberalistic and slightly sensational, although not so drastic as those of Sue; Karl van der Velde, whose historical novels often were compared with Scott's works by contemporaries; Heinrich Zschokke, whose stories were widely read in Germany and were rather entertaining and skillful; and Karl Spindler, who was the author of more than a hundred novels. Equally well represented are German writers of the lowest class of historical fiction. They presented as the essence of history court gossip and glamorous heroism sweetened by unlikely romances. Among them were quill drivers like Luise Mühlbach, who wrote more than two hundred volumes, Franz Carion, Friedrich Friedrich, and Julius Mühlfeld. Germany's most popular woman author, who was first adored by ladies and housemaids alike, and was later ridiculed, was also very popular with readers in Carver. This was Eugenie John, who wrote under the pseudonym of Marlitt. Occasionally a prosaist of better standing, like Paul Heyse, Julius Stinde, and Paul Höcker, is represented by one or two volumes. But on the whole the list is rather depressing. Members of the Carver County society evidently ordered and preferred to read books that were best sellers in the home country. Voluminous and sensational novels were most frequently withdrawn; next in demand was historical fiction. Occasionally a volume of Feuerbach or Heine was taken out; Goethe, Schiller, Lessing, and Humboldt rested on the shelves.

The popularity of certain books was periodical; members probably recommended to each other books that they found interesting, and newly acquired books sometimes enjoyed a short popularity.⁷

⁷ The call numbers that accompany titles in the manuscript volume listing withdrawals cannot always be deciphered because they were crossed out when a book was returned. Such as can be read, however, give the distinct impression of uniform preference for certain types of books.

It would be futile to blame the members of the reading society for wide and uncritical reading, and for a weakness for insignificant fiction that is characteristic of reading publics in general. Like other readers of their time, they were attracted by fiction of a particularly low type — fiction that did not even have the advantage of cheapness, like the dime novels of the present. Their only antidote for this literary diet was the reading of political essays published by liberals and radicals in the United States. Prose literature that lasted, like that of Gottfried Keller, Theodor Storm, and Joseph Anzengruber, was at least available, if not widely read in Germany; but the readers in Carver probably did not even know of these writers.

A third section consists of the literary productions of German Americans. These somewhat incongruous works were not read as frequently as was fiction imported from Germany. Among the authors represented are Samuel Ludvigh, a radical atheist who for more than a quarter of a century was the editor of a periodical known as *Die Fackel*; Friedrich Schünemann-Pott, editor of the *Freisinnige religiöse Blätter*; Biron; and Schütz.⁸ A complete set of eleven volumes of Alexander Schem's *German-American Dictionary* is included. There are novels by German-American prosaists, such as Otto Ruppius and Max Arlberg, whose style became progressively worse with the length of their absence from the fatherland. These works are interesting today for their criticism of the American environment. The German immigrant usually is depicted struggling to preserve his language, his social tastes, and his civic virtues. Small books of poetry by Casper Butz, Gottfried Kinkel, and other German Americans, and a file of the *Deutsch-Amerikanische Monatshefte*, a short-lived but exceedingly interesting journal of high quality published in Chicago in the 1860's, also are found in this collection. Among other works by German Americans are Rudolf Cronau's book on America, which was purchased for eight dollars, and Gustav Struve's *World History*, which probably was chosen because the author was a leading revolutionist of 1848. A predilection for historical

⁸Ludvigh and his publication draw the attention of Albert Post in his recently published volume on *Popular Freethought in America, 1825-1850*, 73, 74 (New York, 1943).

themes is noticeable throughout the collection, but wherever possible history as rendered by politicians, radical theorists, or sensation-minded scribes was preferred.⁹ Very light fiction was made available by adding series of novels published in the *Deutsch-Amerikanische Familienblätter*.

A fourth group of books in the Carver County library is made up of works written in English. Only three English titles are found in the catalogue of 1890. Eight years later a member proposed the purchase of an English edition of Fridtjof Nansen's "Northpole Beschreibung." The mixed wording of this proposal indicates that the member was experiencing a mental transition from German to English. In 1904 thirty-two volumes of *The Makers of History* were purchased, and new labels printed in English were ordered. At the same time non-German names begin to appear on the membership lists.

The number of books in circulation dwindled more and more. In 1886 two hundred books, the largest number ever mentioned, were withdrawn. In 1904 the librarian reported sixty-one withdrawals; in 1905, forty-one. Between 1910 and 1912 thirty-two call numbers are listed beside six names; two of the individuals noted had taken out eleven volumes each. The old group of eager readers was slowly dying off. On one occasion a member borrowed and returned after three weeks the six volumes of Sue's *Wandering Jew*, and then he withdrew the *Mysteries of Paris* and the *Count of Monte Christo*. Another borrowed five volumes of Heine in January, 1896, three days after he withdrew the first book in the set. Within the next two months the same member read a three-volume novel about the Emperor Joseph, the four volumes of Sue's novel entitled *The Mysteries of the People*, a four-volume novel about Napoleon, and a book about Franz Sforza. Incidentally, this arduous reader was the poorest speller who ever served the society as secretary. Even the mediocre literature with which he attempted "to improve his mind" cannot excuse the incredible orthography of his minutes.

⁹ The writer's belief that the Carver County library was typical of German-American libraries is confirmed by Jacob Lucas in an interesting article on "Die Vereinsbibliotheken," appearing in the *Amerikanischer Turnerkalender*, 1892, p. 78-92. Lucas expressed regret because the German classics in the libraries of German societies were neglected. While the membership of the Turner societies doubled and great halls were built, idealism and education were neglected.

While the literary interest of the members faded, the society flourished socially and financially. Evening entertainments in which the women participated had long been purely social in character, with six o'clock dinners or midnight suppers, accompanied by beer, music, and dancing. Picnics and Fourth of July celebrations staged by the society doubtless were sometimes noisy, for the expense accounts include fifty dollars for a band from Shakopee and three and a half dollars for the repair of a cannon. In 1881 the society began to make loans of fifty dollars at eight per cent. By 1900 its capital had increased to over four hundred dollars. After its lot and building were purchased and beautified, the society was in debt to the extent of five hundred dollars, according to a newspaper clipping of March 3, 1912. A funeral fund was created in 1900; from it twenty-five dollars could be paid to the family of a deceased member. In 1918 the *Carver County Journal* published a notice with a headline that has a familiar ring to modern ears: "German Society to Buy Bonds." The paper reported that "all available cash was used to purchase liberty bonds," but the society's accounts show that the sum of fifty dollars was spent for a bond, and that about forty-seven dollars remained in the treasury.

A year later the society resolved to transact all its business in English. At about the same time its officers became careless in keeping its accounts; notes representing its capital were overdue, and most of them were never redeemed. Business meetings were held less frequently than in earlier years, and they were shorter. If a librarian was named, his services were seldom available to members. The old members were passing away and their children were not interested in German literature. Many non-Germans joined what now was a club staging banquets, fish fries, and picnics. Although on paper the membership was larger in 1931 than ever before, the society was almost disintegrated. It dissolved in 1935.¹⁰

The German Reading Society had run its course. Its efforts, made by a generation of high-minded and conscientious men, were honest and persistent through many years. Those who look back upon the

¹⁰ For some helpful information about the society's last years, the writer is indebted to Mr. M. J. Aretz of St. Paul, a former member.

history of this pioneer organization may wish that its members had displayed better literary taste, or at least that they had selected books reflecting more than one school of thought. It must be remembered, however, that the members of the Carver County German Reading Society were not anxious to assemble a varied or representative German library, but to build one that was best fitted to "promote knowledge, morality, and improvement of the mind" as they understood these terms. Public spirited as they were, they also were nonconformists. They tended to preserve their cultural and linguistic heritage while passing through the process of Americanization. The history of the German Reading Society at Carver reflects the mental processes that the members of one group of German immigrants experienced before they or their children could adjust to new cultural surroundings.

Finnish Proverbs in Minnesota

Marjorie Edgar

IN COLLECTING Finnish folk music, magic incantations, and other folklore among the Finns of Minnesota, I often used to hear traditional proverbs and sayings, but made no attempt to collect them. In 1941, at the request of the Writer's Project of the WPA, I collected some proverbs from Finnish friends in Cokato, Ely, Duluth, and Minneapolis; from these four communities alone I received over a hundred and fifty of the most commonly used *sananlaskuja* (proverbs or sayings), a few, of course, being duplicates. All of these proverbs were in actual use among Finnish-born citizens, and some were used even by Minnesotans of Finnish parentage, as in Cokato, an older settlement than those of the north.

Although the Finnish language, as it is spoken in Minnesota, usually shows many traces of "Finglish," as the Finnish-English dialect is sometimes called, the proverbs are in true Finnish, just as they have been passed down from earlier generations. Some proverbs, however, show modifications in their use, and there are some variants in phrasing also. For an example of variations in use, there is the common and amusing proverb, "Frost brings the pigs home." Mothers use it when children come in hungry from play, but it is also applied, with slightly acid humor, to relatives who come to visit in hard times, or to grown children coming home to dinner on Mother's Day. Another popular proverb, "Who should hoist the cat's tail but the cat itself?" has been variously used, but always to show pride and polite boasting on the part of the cat (the person using the proverb). A proverb with an obvious meaning is "Nature calls the young woodpecker to the tree," but I have heard it quoted in connection with the return of humans to their original pursuits—even, in one instance, in the sense of "*On revient toujours à ses premiers amours*," which is a long way from the young woodpecker and his aptitude for his natural occupation.

Many Finnish proverbs have similes taken from the farm and the woods. Some of these sayings are:

"If the fish won't bite, you've saved the worms anyhow."

"A bear has bear's cubs."

"The wolf does not weep for the dog's death."

"Big fish eat little fish."

"The old horse keeps to the furrows."

"The crow is charmed by the sound of his own voice."

"Mice won't run down the mouth of a sleeping cat."

"You can't judge a dog by its hair."

"Sharp is the knife of the able man, dull the knife of the dullard."

"Don't make hay in the snow, or go courting in the afternoon."

"Is the egg wiser than the hen?"

"To the thrush her children are always the most beautiful."

"He who is honest in his fields will never lack clean bread" (bread without birchbark in it).

There is a good deal of homely peasant wisdom in sayings used for advice, such as:

"A man is known by his deeds, not by big words."

"In the evening drowsy, in the morning alert, this builds the house."

"There are always wise men on land when there's an accident at sea."

"He who sleeps in a calm must row during a gale."

"What one learns in his youth he practises in his old age."

"To the lazy man, winter always has too many cold days, summer too many sweating days."

"Better to sell the farm than to eat the seed."

"Much talking in the world, little knowledge." Along the same lines is "Much growling, little wool."

"Better to turn out of the road a mile than to go straight ahead into danger."

"Surely the spinning wheel will produce food, the spindle make something to cook."

Some Finnish proverbs resemble those used by English and Scotch settlers, and one recognizes a likeness to old American saws

in "Desperate need creates a way," "Better beware than repent," "Where there is a smell of smoke there is fire," and "A partridge in the palm of the hand is better than two on the branch." The last is an interesting variant of "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush."

The Finnish love of independence is illustrated by a proverb often heard in Minnesota — "*Oma tupa, oma lupa*," meaning "One's own cabin, one's own freedom." This is one of many sayings which rhyme in the original; another of this type is the common proverb, "A man is known by his word, an ox by its horns." Love of country and of one's home countryside are shown in proverbs like "Your own land a strawberry, another's land but a blueberry." Blueberries apparently were too common to be prized in Finland. And there is an old and beautiful saying, "Hearken to the spruce in whose root is thy home."

There are some grim northern sayings among these *sananlaskuja* — such as "There is no watchman at the gate of disaster," "Misfortune does not travel with a bell," and "A good bell is heard from afar, a bad bell from much farther." Often heard is the saying, "Three things trouble a man and eat at his heart — a leaking boat, a kicking horse, and a mean wife." More cheerful, and just as common, is the saying, "Good it is to see smiling mouths." A favorite one during dark days among Finnish immigrants — and even today — is, "It is good to live in hope."

There is often great beauty of sound and wording in these proverbs, and a poetic feeling that shows that they come from the same ancient folk sources as the "Kalevala," although they have not the same rhythm. All this is lost, of course, in translation, although some of the sayings are poetic even in the English translation. For example, there is the religious saying, "Man sows the grain, the earth makes it grow, but it is God who blesses the harvest." Lovely in Finnish, and pleasant in English, too, is the saying, heard in Minnesota after long hard winters, "Some have good luck, but everyone has summer."

Some Sources for Northwest History

EARLY GEOGRAPHY TEXTBOOKS

Esther Jerabek

AN EXAMINATION of the early geographies in the textbook collection of the Minnesota Historical Society discloses some unusual and interesting treatments of the section of the United States which later became Minnesota. Although the society's collection of geographies is neither extensive nor complete, it is representative enough to show how the available information on a little-explored region expanded as the wave of settlement engulfed Minnesota, and how it developed from a mingling of fact with myth and hearsay into a picture of the state as it actually is.

Geographical knowledge of the interior portions of the United States passed through several stages. Many of the earliest books on the subject were the work of the Reverend Jedidiah Morse of Charlestown, Massachusetts, whose *American Geography*, *Geography Made Easy*, *Elements of Geography*, and *American Gazetteer* appeared in more than fifty editions between 1784 and 1828. Morse was widely known as "the father of American geography."¹

The reports of early explorers were at first the chief source of information about the Minnesota country, for it seems doubtful that the geographers themselves went much beyond their libraries to verify or correlate their statements. Consequently, some of their accounts are contradictory and even highly fantastic, in the light of present-day knowledge. It was only after the purchase of Louisiana that geographers began to make separate mention of the upper Mississippi Valley.

¹ For detailed discussions of the contributions made by Morse, see Ralph H. Brown, "The American Geographies of Jedidiah Morse," in the Association of American Geographers, *Annals*, 31:145-217 (September, 1941); and H. E. Rumble, "Morse's School Geographies," in the *Journal of Geography*, 42:174-180 (May, 1943). The Minnesota Historical Society has sixteen editions of the four works mentioned, including the second edition of the *American Geography* (London, 1792). Later editions of the work bear the title *American Universal Geography*.

In the 1805 edition of his *American Universal Geography*, Morse briefly describes upper Louisiana as "one immense prairie," continuing with the statement that "it produces nothing but grass; it is filled with buffaloe, deer, and other kinds of game; the land is represented as too rich for the growth of forest trees. It is pretended that Upper Louisiana contains in its bowels many silver and copper mines."² In the seventh edition of his geography, which appeared in 1819, he names the Indian tribes that Carver and McKenzie reported as inhabitants of what he calls the "North-West Territory." In closing, however, Morse notes that "Whether the same, or different, tribes now occupy this country we are unable to say," though he was aware that "The N. W. Company have a post established in this territory, on the head waters of the Mississippi river." Since there were at least two North West Company posts in the area by 1819, one on the east side of Lake Bemidji and another on Cass Lake, it is not clear to which Morse refers.³

John Pinkerton, whose *Modern Geography* was published in London in 1802, went into some detail about the Great Lakes region, but his knowledge of its climate and topography was hazy. He observed that "it does not appear that these lakes are ever impeded with ice" and "that there are probably above two hundred lakes of considerable size in North America; a singularity which distinguishes it from any other portion of the globe." Of the Mississippi River he wrote that it "is the most distinguished among the rivers of North America; its source having already been traced to three small lakes above lat. 47°, and it enters the sea in lat. 29°, after a comparative course of about 1400 B. miles." The Falls of St. Anthony are described by Pinkerton in greater detail than any other feature of the upper Mississippi. Although Pinkerton asserts that he is quoting from an unnamed "recent system of American geography," the author of which "must have had several opportunities of

² Since the Minnesota Historical Society does not have the 1805 edition of Morse's work, these passages are quoted from an excerpt reproduced by Harrison A. Trexler, in an article on "Missouri in Old Geographies," in the *Missouri Historical Review*, 32:148 (January, 1938).

³ Morse, *American Universal Geography*, 1:640, 641 (Charlestown, 1819); Grace Lee Nute, "Posts in the Minnesota Fur-trading Area," *ante*, 11:369, 370.

being well informed," his statement contains a number of errors. For example, he reports that the oak trees on what is now known as Nicollet Island "are, in the proper season of the year, loaded with eagles' nests" and that "the St. Lawrence, the Mississippi, the river Bourbon, and the Oregon, or the river of the West, have their sources in the same neighborhood."⁴

Pinkerton's source of information proves to have been Jonathan Carver's *Travels through the Interior Parts of North America*, which ran through more than twenty editions between 1778 and 1838. Pinkerton quotes some passages verbatim, but he paraphrases others. Although Carver himself visited some of the localities he described, he too depended partly on hearsay and accounts of earlier explorers for his information. The map accompanying his *Travels* labels the present Nelson River, not the Red River, as the Bourbon. Later explorations, particularly that of Schoolcraft in 1832, expanded the knowledge of the topography of northern Minnesota and of the sources of the chief river systems of the North American continent.

Another geographer whose texts ran into numerous editions was Jesse Olney. His *Practical System of Modern Geography*, which reached its thirty-third edition in 1840, passed over Wisconsin Territory, of which Minnesota was then a part, with a very brief statement about its mineral products and about the fact that the eastern and southern parts were being settled.⁵

In 1851 George Van Waters published a curious little book called *The Poetical Geography, Designed to Accompany Outline Maps or School Atlases*. It contains several passages on the upper Mississippi and the Minnesota country.⁶ The first, under the heading "Mississippi," reads as follows:

The Mississippi, from I-ta'-ca Lake
In I-o-wa,⁷ bids the broad Gulf awake.

⁴ Pinkerton, *Modern Geography*, 2:542-548 (London, 1802).

⁵ Olney, *Practical System of Modern Geography*, 145 (New York, 1840).

⁶ Van Waters, *Poetical Geography*, 13, 66 (Louisville, 1851).

⁷ Parts of what is now Minnesota were attached to Iowa and Wisconsin territories at various times from 1836 to 1849. Although Van Waters published his booklet in 1851, when the southern and eastern boundaries of Minnesota had been fixed, it was copyrighted in 1849 and probably was written earlier; hence the confusion in geographical data.

Wisconsin for the Eastern Coast survey,
Then Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee.
Then Mississippi's soil is next beheld,
With Louisiana's most southeastern field
With I-o-wa; Missouri's on the west.
Where, with Arkansas, Louisiana's pressed.

Both the eastern and western branches of the Father of Waters
next receive attention, the latter as follows:

From I-o-wa, the *Willows*, and the *Pine*,
Crow Wing, and *Swan*, and *Elk*, and *Sack* [Sauk], combine;
Then, casting up their bubbles by the billion,
Crow river comes, *St. Peters*, and *Vermillion*.
White Water, *Root*, and *Upper Iowa*,
With *Turkey river*, sing their roundelay.
Red Cedar then, with *Iowa* made fast;
Skunk river next with dark *Des Moines* the last.

With an enumeration of lakes in Minnesota and other parts of
the Northwest, Van Waters appropriately opens a section devoted
to lakes of four continents. Some pertinent passages follow:

Lake of the Woods and Rainy Lake are found
Skirting Columbia on her northern bound;
Then comes *Superior*, *Huron*, and *St. Clair*,
And *Erie Lake*, with one *Ontario* fair.
'Tween Michigan and state Wisconsin roars
Lake Michigan, that laves the yankee shores. . . .
Wisconsin hears her *Win-né-ba-go* talk,
With *St. Croix Lake*, *Flam-beau* and *Tomahawk*.
Leech Lake, *Itasca*, *Devil's* and *Ottertail*,
In Minnesota with *Fox Lake* we hail;
Then *Pepin Lake* and *Spirit Lake* we see,
And *Big Stone Lake* there finds a pedigree.

Later textbooks reflect the more accurate knowledge of the upper
Northwest which followed in the wake of white settlement. Among
them is S. Augustus Mitchell's *System of Modern Geography*, which
ran into a dozen or more editions after 1847. The edition of 1871,
which is in the Minnesota Historical Society's collection, gives a
typical account of Minnesota as presented to the school children of

the period. The author deals with such topics as natural features, lakes, rivers, cataracts, soil and climate, products, population, settlements, and education.⁸

By 1885 geography texts had become sufficiently specialized to include large sections devoted to the state in which they were to be used. Sanford Niles's *Elementary Geography* is an early example of such a text. It contains eighty-eight pages about the world, including all of the United States outside Minnesota. Forty-six pages cover the state in considerable detail. The book contains many illustrations.⁹

The samples given herewith, with one exception, are drawn from the small collection of geographies in the library of the Minnesota Historical Society. They have been selected almost at random, though attention has been devoted largely to books issued in many editions because they were in wide demand. As historical sources, these textbooks supplement the narratives of explorers in serving as guides to the growth of geographic knowledge of the Minnesota country and the Northwest.

⁸ Mitchell, *System of Modern Geography*, 175, 176 (Philadelphia, 1871).

⁹ Niles, *Elementary Geography, Including the Geography, History and Resources of Minnesota* (St. Paul, 1885).

Reviews of Books

The Territorial Papers of the United States. Compiled and edited by CLARENCE EDWIN CARTER. Vol. 10: *The Territory of Michigan, 1805-1820.* (Washington, United States Government Printing Office, 1942. xi, 948 p. \$2.00.)

Like its predecessors in this series, this volume is made up of selections from a vast bulk of papers, and, as has been the case earlier, the editor appears to have used judgment and discrimination in his choice of documents. "The principal problem confronting the United States in the territory of Michigan, as in all the territories, was administrative in character; priority is therefore given to documents possessing a relevancy to administration" (p. iv). Papers relating to the extension of the postal service are printed so far as they were found, although the files are broken; papers relating to the public lands are heavily drawn upon, although there is no attempt to include all documents found, since many were routine and repetitious; and papers relating to Indian affairs are largely excluded, since "Indian relations transcended territorial boundaries and frequently cannot be said to be a part of any one territory" (p. v). Papers printed earlier and still easily accessible are not reprinted here.

The contents of the volume are grouped in "parts." Part 1 contains papers relating to the foundations of the territory, from 1803 to 1805; parts 2 to 4, those relating to the three administrations of Governor Hull, from 1805 to 1813; part 5, those relating to the period of British occupation, from 1812 to 1813; and parts 6 and 7, those relating to the three administrations of Governor Cass, from 1813 to 1820.

In 1818, when the Congress enacted a law authorizing the people of the Territory of Illinois to draw up a constitution and form a state government, the boundary of Michigan Territory was extended westward to the Mississippi River, and consequently that portion of the future territory and state of Minnesota situated between the Mississippi and the St. Croix came under the jurisdiction of Governor Cass. This volume, however, contains no documents which bear upon this area nor upon persons identified with it. Governor Cass's expedition of 1820, which took him and his party as far as the lake now known by his name, falls just out-

side the scope of this compilation. While no announcement to the effect has been made, it is anticipated that volume 11 of the *Territorial Papers* will contain considerable material of interest to students of Minnesota history.

LESTER B. SHIPPEE

The Trans-Mississippi West: A Guide to Its Periodical Literature (1811-1938). By OSCAR OSBURN WINTHER. (Bloomington, Indiana University, 1942. xv, 263 p. \$1.50.)

The periodicals covered by this volume are, first, those published by the regional and state historical societies in the area; second, historical periodicals of a general nature that contain material on the history of the Trans-Mississippi West; and third, a number of magazines that are not primarily devoted to history, but nevertheless include valuable material. Among the latter are such publications as the *Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's Magazine*, *Niles' Weekly Register*, and the *North American Review*.

The 3,501 items listed in the volume are grouped under subject headings consisting of the names of the various states in the region, listed alphabetically, and interspersed with numerous other topics, such as cattle, frontier, fur trade, Great Plains, Indians, Mormons, Oregon country, transportation and communication, and the like. Under each state and under most of the other topics there is a further classification, the nature of which varies with the state or topic. Citations are not repeated under different headings, but there are frequent cross references which enable the user to find all material listed in the volume on any topic. There is a useful author index at the close of the book.

Obviously a volume of this size could not possibly contain references even to all the significant articles and source materials printed in the periodicals covered. If another edition of this guide is contemplated the compiler may well go into greater detail in stating the principles adopted in making the selections. The present writer, for instance, is somewhat at a loss to discover why certain articles with which he is familiar are included, while other articles in the same fields and of apparently equal importance are omitted. The compiler, of course, has his reasons for the selections made, and a more specific statement in the preface would give the user a clearer idea of the limitations that were adopted.

Students of western American history are indebted to Dr. Winther for this very useful volume. It is to be hoped that he will prepare a com-

panion volume devoted to the proceedings and reports of professional societies and to the "fugitive literature," as is suggested in the preface.

DAN E. CLARK

Indian Villages of the Illinois Country (Illinois State Museum, *Scientific Papers*, vol. 2—part 1, *Atlas*). Compiled by SARA JONES TUCKER. (Springfield, 1942. xiii, 18 p. Maps. \$3.00.)

According to the compiler's preface, the aim of this work as a whole, of which the *Atlas* is part 1, is "to make available what is known so far about . . . what Indian tribes formerly occupied Illinois and in what areas they lived. It also considers the sites of their villages, their movements to new areas, and the contacts between the various tribes." The *Atlas* presents a selection from the maps used in developing the materials for part 2, which is in preparation. Part 2 will summarize these maps and other sources, and will include also "reproductions of letters, journals, reports, pictures, and other original documents."

Part of the maps reproduced in the *Atlas* were collected by the "ethno-history program" of the department of anthropology of the University of Chicago, as a part of its effort to recover and make available manuscript materials in libraries, public archives, and private collections, which hold "a widely scattered, though buried story of the Indian and of the period when he and the white man jointly occupied the Illinois Country." The collection of the rest of the maps, and their preparation for publication, was made possible by the Illinois State Museum.

The *Atlas* includes fifty-four excellent reproductions of original maps and sketches, the earliest of which is dated 1671 and the latest, 1835. They are preceded by a bibliography and a section of explanatory notes to be used in connection with the maps. While the purpose of the work has limited the selection of the maps to those which give information about the location of Indian tribes, nevertheless the *Atlas* should prove a convenient reference tool for any student of Mississippi Valley history; and, in the words of Mr. Thorne Deuel, chief of the Illinois State Museum, who wrote the foreword, it should be of more than passing interest "to the average reader who finds pleasure in rolling back the map to view the period of adventure and exploration that made possible the Illinois of today."

M.W.B.

Schoolcraft-Longfellow-Hiawatha. By CHASE S. OSBORN and STELLANOVA OSBORN. (Lancaster, Pennsylvania, The Jaques Cattell Press, 1942. xix, 697 p. Illustrations. \$5.00.)

The thesis of this ponderous and badly organized volume is expressed by the authors on page 560: "Without Schoolcraft's poetical interest in the subject, *The Song of Hiawatha* would never have been written." In other words, Chase Osborn, ex-governor of Michigan, and his daughter have compiled this book, first, to refute all charges that Longfellow was indebted to the Finnish epic of the "Kalevala" in creating his poem about Hiawatha and, second, to prove the poet's explicit obligations to Henry Rowe Schoolcraft. Although few informed scholars have ever doubted the original contention of the authors, they do succeed in substantiating their point by a mass of evidence.

The very title of the volume betokens its miscellaneous nature. The bewildered reader is introduced first to a personal controversy between Mr. Osborn and a Detroit newspaper columnist. Then, after a quite needless digression concerning the admirable qualities of the Finnish people and Mr. Osborn's own travels in Lapland, one is given a broad account of the Hiawatha country, which involves the mineralogy, geography, and history of Lake Superior, and the genealogy of Hiawatha himself, which the authors seem to identify with the ancestry of Schoolcraft's half-breed wife, Jane Johnston. Almost two hundred pages are devoted to parallels between the poem and the legends published by Schoolcraft in such volumes as *Algic Researches* and *Oneota*; in the course of the discussion practically the whole poem is printed. The final three hundred and sixty pages include a detailed but unmethodical biography of Schoolcraft, a section of letters written by Schoolcraft chiefly to his brother-in-law George Johnston, for a while subagent at La Pointe, and a long bibliography of items by and about Schoolcraft.

Such heterogeneous material would have puzzled many an author. The Osborns, unfortunately, not only yield to the ramifications of their subject, but seem unable to present it concisely and logically. Repetitions are frequent. A minor work such as Schoolcraft's *View of the Lead Mines of Missouri* is discussed under half a dozen categories without much regard to what has previously been said. Details and dates of Indian treaties are given several times. Schoolcraft's distinctions and activities are reiterated *ad nauseam* and in almost identical language. Even biographical details of the Schoolcraft family are repeated without point.

In style, too, the book is weak. The passion of the authors for superlatives is annoying. One might tolerate their warm praise of the size and beauty and grandeur of Lake Superior, but few people would deem the St. Mary's River "the noblest of all earth's rivers" (p. 86) or acclaim Longfellow as the greatest American poet (p. 26). In general the book is loosely written, with staccato, incoherent paragraphs and carelessly chosen language. Solecisms are not numerous, but one is puzzled by such a sentence as the following: "In 1941, hunters crossing the Straits of Mackinac took home 11,000 deer, which lately are increasing in number" (p. 54). Stringent editing would have eliminated such gaucheness.

All this is not to deny the book merit. Although a critical reader will hardly be impressed by the first half of the volume, which covers very familiar ground, he will be grateful for the biographical study of Schoolcraft and for the honest eulogy of this versatile man. Schoolcraft is far too often dismissed as an Indian agent at Sault Ste. Marie and Mackinac who happened to hit upon the true source of the Mississippi when Pike and Cass and Beltrami had failed. The Osborns strive hard to rectify this picture. For Schoolcraft's activities ranged from glassmaking and poetry to exploring, trading with and conciliating the Indians, conducting geological surveys from Michigan to Arkansas, and gathering ethnological data of primary importance. Henry Rowe Schoolcraft emerges from this survey as a shrewd and gifted individual. If the state of Michigan is obligated to him for various place names, for educational services, and for the peaceful extinguishing of Indian titles to many thousands of acres, writers and ethnologists are in his debt for a multitude of details about the legends, the history, the life, and the culture of the Chippewa.

The extensive Schoolcraft bibliography here given is particularly valuable to the student of Indian life in the upper lake country. It is to be hoped that Schoolcraft's more important volumes, like his *Algic Researches* and *History, Condition and Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the United States*, will sometime be available in new editions.

JOHN T. FLANAGAN

Walter Reed: Doctor in Uniform. By L. N. WOOD. (New York, Julian Messner Inc., 1943. vi, 277 p. Illustrations. \$2.50.)

This is a new life of Walter Reed written in a more popular style than those previously published. Almost half of the book narrates his life previous to his final and momentous work in determining the method of the

propagation of yellow fever and the role played by the mosquito in its transmission. Reed was an energetic student in his youth and he never relaxed his ambitions and ideals during the sixteen years of the ordinary dull routine work as an army surgeon in small western army posts. It was not till he was forty, a rather advanced age, that he began the scientific medical study that later made him famous.

The book brings out the fact, often overlooked, that he was for two years stationed in Minnesota after his work at Johns Hopkins, and that he continued his work in St. Paul in the laboratory of the high school with Dr. Louis B. Wilson, then an instructor there. The tremendous and world-wide value of the yellow fever investigation, one of the great gifts of the medical profession to humanity, is not sufficiently stressed by the author. In several places, involved paragraphs obscure the author's meaning. Dr. Howard Kelly's work, *Walter Reed and Yellow Fever*, is a much better book.

JOHN M. ARMSTRONG

Iowa in Times of War. By JACOB A. SWISHER. (Iowa City, The State Historical Society of Iowa, 1943. 395 p. \$3.00.)

"Forts are like men. They come and serve and go, frequently leaving a record that is worthy of preservation. . . . Like men, they leave records of service. . . . As the biographies of men index the histories of nations, so the stories of forts indicate the course of military events." With this significant observation, the author of the present volume proceeds to acquaint us with the early forts of Iowa. They were built for many different purposes — to quell Indian disturbances, to promote Indian trade, to protect the pioneers from the Indians, to aid settlers in seeking new homes, and to shelter early surveyors. When a fort had fulfilled the purpose for which it had been built, it was abandoned. A succession of forts often sprang up upon the same site. Fort Des Moines, for example, over the past century has served as a post for frontier troops, a training center for Negro officers, and recently, as the original training center for the WACS, it became the "West Point for Women."

But one learns much more than the mere history of forts from this volume. The origin and development of the state militia, its many and varied duties, such as "preserving the public peace" during the famous prize fight between Tom Allen and Joe Hogan in 1873, and other duties, are here set forth in interesting style. The chapter on the national

guard units as they developed in Iowa might well serve as a model for other state historians who are planning similar histories. Poorly prepared as this country always was when wars came, how much worse things might have been had not the various states maintained at least skeleton military organizations, such as the old militia companies and the national guard units!

A wealth of information is contained in three chapters on "Uniforms and Equipment," "Military Camps," and "Weapons." The uniforms have undergone many changes, all for the good, from the days of the American Revolution down to the present. Today, uniforms are designed for one purpose only—to meet the conditions under which the individual fighting units are serving. The same careful planning enters into the camp life of the soldier, sanitary conditions being a major factor in selecting camp sites. Proper food and rations are carefully and scientifically prepared, and medical care is immediately at hand. Shades of Valley Forge! And in the matter of weapons, a technological revolution has occurred, including improvements in the manufacture of rifles, powder, cannon, grenades, armor and steel-plate shells, and, most recently, the development of tanks.

The soldier statesman has fared well, generally speaking, in Iowa politics. Senators Brookhart, Steck, and Gillette were all soldiers before they were elected to the United States Senate. In 1942, six of the nine Iowa members of the House were veterans of the First World War, and Iowa has contributed its share of distinguished men to the armed forces. In 1930, for example, four of the fifty-three rear admirals in the United States Navy were from Iowa; Admiral W. O. Leahy, now chief of staff to President Roosevelt, was born in Iowa; and Captain Eddie Rickenbacker once lived in Des Moines.

This volume is one of a series that is being published in preparation for Iowa's centennial in 1946. It marks an excellent beginning.

JOHN W. OLIVER

Watershed Drama: Battle Lake, Minnesota. By J. VANNERSTRÖM CANNON. (Berkeley, California, The Gillick Press, 1942. x, 117 p. Illustrations. \$2.50.)

This is the kind of book that forces one, however reluctantly, to admit the justification for ghostwriting. Experience worth sharing and the ability to re-create it in words are not necessarily companion gifts. Mrs.

Cannon must have more than this to tell, and in better order. As Jennie Amelia Vennerström, she lived out her childhood in the new Scandinavian settlement at Battle Lake in Otter Tail County. Determined from the age of five to learn how to paint, she set out, after working her way through Hamline University, on a "pursuit of Art" that carried her into half the world's countries before she settled down to domestic life in California. Probably owing to this artistic training, her book is exceptionally attractive in physical format.

The peculiarly significant phases of the story are two: details of life among the Battle Lake "Scandis" in the 1860's and 1870's, and the author's progress from shame about her difference from the superior Yankee neighbors to a mature pride in her Swedish heritage. Unfortunately, neither of these stories emerges for the reader unless he can himself supply two lines for every one of the author's. And the past is mixed with present and future, immigrant customs with moral philosophy, Europe with America, in such higgledy-piggledy fashion that the reader must chart the story for himself if he is to get it straight—and then he finds it incomplete at several vital points.

It is the living quality of what details there are that makes one wish the material had been handled by an experienced storyteller. There is familiar poignancy in the account of the shy immigrant child made aware of her heavy, brass-tipped shoes and dress of coarse brown bed ticking by her contact with a daintily feminine schoolteacher. There is human warmth in the description of the new immigrants so eager to be like the Yankees that as soon as they had money enough they replaced their ancestral pewter with cheap American crockery, their hand-wrought furniture brought at great cost from Europe with graceless machine-made stuff from American factories. There is convincing reality in the excited wonder with which the settlers made the acquaintance of the new fluting iron and sewing machine, in the care with which they guarded the marks cut into the window sill as a substitute for a clock or sundial, in their hoarding of the precious mite of sugar in a box hung high from the ceiling out of reach of little fingers.

But of living characters there are few, and of real narration almost none. Nor are the Battle Lake community and its inhabitants sketched in more than the vaguest outline. The author might have done better there with her brush and oils.

HELEN CLAPESATTLE

Minnesota Historical Society Notes

THE SOCIETY's participation in the Stillwater centennial celebration on August 21 gave its members an opportunity to attend, despite wartime restrictions, a program comparable to a session of the summer tours and conventions enjoyed in times of peace. The short bus trip from the Twin Cities to Stillwater could be made without placing the strain on transportation facilities that an extensive tour would entail. The society was represented on the program by the curator of its museum, Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, who took as his subject "One Hundred Years Ago in St. Croix County, Wisconsin Territory." Other features of the program were a brief talk by Governor Thye, a paper on "Pioneer Women in the Development of Stillwater" by Miss Emma Glaser of Stillwater, and a historical pageant reviewing the "Story of Stillwater."

Dr. Beeson and Mr. Babcock attended the annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, which was held at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, from April 21 to 23. Dr. Beeson also went to Prairie du Chien on May 21 to attend ceremonies commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of the building of the Villa Louis there. This pioneer mansion, which was long the home of Hercules L. Dousman, a prominent figure in the fur trade of Minnesota and Wisconsin, is now maintained as a museum.

The society's large collection of books about western travel recently yielded an interesting comment on a picture displayed by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. The extract, which comes from Paul Bourget's *Outre-Mer: Impressions of America* (New York, 1895), is quoted under the heading "Reunion in Saint Paul" in the institute's *Bulletin* for April 24. It reveals that a French traveler who visited St. Paul half a century ago found there in the James J. Hill collection a Delacroix painting of the coast of Morocco that he had seen many years earlier in Europe. The picture was loaned to the institute for a spring exhibit by Mr. Louis W. Hill of St. Paul.

A note on the wartime activities of the society's museum was contributed by Mr. Babcock to the April issue of the *Quarterly* of the Midwest Museums Conference. Similar statements from other museums are being

presented in this publication, in an effort to call attention to "constructive activity by museums of the middle west" and to give "suggestions upon ways of adjusting to war conditions."

Mrs. Leone Brower, assistant cataloguer in the society's library, resigned in June, and Miss Esther Johnson, former catalogue assistant, was promoted to the position. Her place was filled by the appointment of Mrs. Mary McKenney, who had served previously for some months as an assistant in the manuscript division. Miss Ida Kramer, who was engaged in cataloguing manuscripts, and Miss Eva Wood, a typist in the manuscript division, resigned also in June. The work of cataloguing has been taken over by Miss Helen Gladoski, and Miss Eileen Longbotham has been named assistant to the curator of manuscripts.

Among the active members who joined the society during the three months from April 1 to June 30 are two life members, Sinclair Lewis of New York City and Frederick E. Weyerhaeuser of St. Paul, and two sustaining members, Leonard G. Carpenter and Paul Christopherson, both of Minneapolis. In addition, the following annual members were enrolled: Carrie A. Bachtle of Blue Earth, Dr. Stephen H. Baxter of Minneapolis, Dr. Baldwin Borreson of Thief River Falls, John Huntington Cook of Trenton, New Jersey, W. E. Dahlquist of Thief River Falls, Mr. and Mrs. Karl DeLaitre of Wayzata, Leonard R. Dickinson of Bemidji, Wilhelm Holm of Tyler, Mrs. J. R. Johns of Winona, Dr. Edward Kaufman of Appleton, Dr. John L. Mills of Winnebago, Andrew B. Shea of Minneapolis, Dr. Edwin J. Simons of Swanville, Margaret Snyder of Chatfield, L. W. Spicer of Albert Lea, George C. Sudheimer of St. Paul, Mrs. George W. Sugden of Mankato, and Adolph A. Toftey of Grand Marais.

A member of the society's executive council, William H. Bovey of Minneapolis, died on April 27. Another active member whose death occurred in the second quarter of 1943 was Alexander P. Anderson of Red Wing.

A recent addition to the list of the society's institutional members is the Greysolon du Lhut chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution of Duluth.

Some of the reasons for collecting and preserving war records are enumerated by Jacob Hodnefield, acting head of the society's newspaper

department and supervisor of the Minnesota War History Committee, in a communication published in the *Minnesota Defense Council Bulletin* for May 24.

Historic sites in the Twin Cities area that might serve as appropriate subjects for the artist's brush were enumerated and described by Dr. Beeson before the Minnesota Artists Association meeting in Minneapolis on April 6. Dr. Nute spoke on the "Fur Trade and Fur Traders" before the Hennepin County Historical Society at Richfield on April 13, and on the "Kensington Rune Stone" before the brotherhood of a Lutheran church at Marine on April 30.

CONTRIBUTORS

Miss Emma Glaser, whose explanation of "How Stillwater Came to Be" opens the present issue, is a native of the St. Croix Valley city, which is marking its centennial this year. She has taught English in a number of schools and colleges, including the Moorhead State Teachers College and the Smith College Day School. Among her writings are a book on the teaching of junior high school English, a volume of readings on the social studies, and a survey of the development of the St. Croix Valley. She expresses the hope that the latter, which is still unpublished, will have "popular and lasting appeal."

Upon discovering that biographers of Dr. Walter Reed had almost completely neglected the Minnesota phase of his career, Miss Bertha L. Heilbron, the assistant editor of this magazine, began an investigation the results of which appear in the current issue. The contributor of a group of "Finnish Proverbs in Minnesota," Miss Majorie Edgar, is an authority on Finnish folklore. In earlier issues of this magazine, she published articles on Finnish folk songs and charms in the state, and on "Imaginary Animals of Northern Minnesota."

In 1941 Mrs. Hildegard Binder Johnson received a grant-in-aid from the Social Science Research Council for the study of the German element in Minnesota. Her continued interest in the subject has resulted in the publication of several articles, including the present history of the Carver County German Reading Society and an account of "Immigrant Traditions and Rural Middle Western Architecture" in the June, 1943, issue of the *American-German Review*. Miss Esther Jerabek is head of the accessions department in the society's library. Her earlier publications, which

deal largely with the Czech element, include an article on "The Transition of a New-World Bohemia" in the issue of this magazine for March, 1934.

The president of the society, Dr. Lester B. Shippee, who is professor of history in the University of Minnesota, heads the list of authors contributing reviews to this number. He is followed by Dr. Dan E. Clark, head of the department of history in the University of Oregon; Mrs. Mary W. Berthel, editorial assistant on the society's staff; Dr. John T. Flanagan, a member of the English faculty in the University of Minnesota to whom a Guggenheim fellowship was awarded for 1943-44; Dr. John W. Oliver, professor of history in the University of Pittsburgh; Dr. John M. Armstrong, a St. Paul physician and a member of the society's executive council; and Miss Helen Clapesattle, chief editor for the University of Minnesota Press and the author of the recent biography of *The Doctors Mayo*.

ACCESSIONS

Four volumes of business records of the Marine lumbering firm of Judd, Walker and Company, dating chiefly from the period from 1849 to 1871, have been presented by Mr. Roy E. Strand of Marine. One of the volumes is a cash book for the years 1849 to 1854, two are ledgers for the period from 1866 to 1871, and a fourth contains a record of the firm's shipments on St. Croix River boats from 1864 to 1868. An examination of these manuscript volumes reveals that they contain much valuable data about such subjects as St. Croix River boats and their captains, types and quantities of goods shipped and their destinations, and provisions and materials used by the lumber company. A large collection of the records of the concern, which later was known as Walker, Judd, and Veazie, was presented by Mr. Strand in 1934 (see *ante*, 15:346). The newly acquired records are an important addition to this valuable collection of business papers.

Pioneer life in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and other western states chiefly in the 1850's, are pictured in the diaries and letters of Andrew J. Sterrett, recently presented by his son, Mr. A. J. Sterrett of Erie, Pennsylvania. The diaries, which cover the years from 1849 to 1865, show that Sterrett spent much of his time in St. Paul during the five years from 1849 to 1854; that he visited the Lake Superior country and the future

site of Superior, Wisconsin; that he made trips into Iowa by stage and on Mississippi River boats; that he lived for short periods in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, and Iowa; and that in 1860 he returned to Erie, Pennsylvania, his original place of residence.

A list of plants found by Increase A. Lapham and Robert Kennicott in the Red River Valley in 1857 has been copied by the microfilm process from the original in the Lapham Papers in the possession of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. It is one of several items in this important collection relating to Dr. John A. Kennicott, the Chicago editor, and his naturalist son, Robert Kennicott, to be copied for the society and added to the Kennicott material acquired earlier (see *ante*, p. 61). Most of the newly received material dates from 1856 and 1857 and relates to Robert's Minnesota visit of the latter year.

Detailed information about the birds and mammals of northwestern Minnesota in the two decades from 1889 to 1909 is to be found in eleven notebooks presented by Mr. Ernest L. Brown of Powell, Wyoming. He made the notations included in these manuscript volumes while he was living at Warren, where he was employed as a taxidermist. There is also information about the Indians who lived in the vicinity of Warren about the turn of the century.

The papers of Henry Oldenburg of Carlton have been presented by his daughter, Miss Margaret Oldenburg of St. Paul. They cover the period from 1888 to 1934 and deal largely with Oldenburg's two special interests, forestry and Jay Cooke State Park.

A number of interesting items relating to William Windom, recently received from his grandson, Mr. Roger L. Windom of Orlando, Florida, doubtless will form the nucleus for an extensive collection of material on the career of one of Minnesota's important public figures. Windom, who settled at Winona in 1855, served the state in Congress both as a representative and a senator, and he was secretary of the treasury in the cabinets of Garfield and Harrison in 1881 and from 1889 to 1891. Among Mr. Windom's gifts are letters and other manuscripts that contain information on the genealogy of the Windom family; manuscript and printed versions of a *Tribute of the New York Chamber of Commerce to William Windom*, issued in New York after his death in 1891; and a pamphlet presenting the *Address of Rev. Teynis S. Hamlin, D.D. at the Obsequies of William Windom* at Washington on February 26, 1891. He

has also presented several portraits of Windom and of his wife, Ellen Towne Windom. Included in this group is a likeness of Windom that appeared on a two-dollar bill issued in the series of 1891. By special arrangement, it was struck from the original plate in the possession of the treasury department, which permitted Mr. Windom to have two copies made. One of these delicate steel engravings has been given to the society; the other is in Mr. Windom's possession. Another interesting addition to the Windom collection is a plaster bust of the senator, presented by his daughter, Miss Florence B. Windom of Boston.

Minnesota's participation in the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection is reflected in the correspondence of Edmund P. Neill of Red Wing, recently presented by his daughter, Mrs. Lila N. Hillyer of Madison. Neill was a journalist who served with the American forces in 1898 and 1899. His letters contain detailed descriptions of military camps in Minnesota and other parts of the United States, and of native life and customs in the Philippines.

Some papers and records of a Minneapolis lumber firm, which was known as E. W. Backus and Company until 1899 and later took the name of Backus-Brooks Company, have been received from the Minneapolis Public Library. Included are five volumes of ledgers, journals, cash books, and minutes of stockholders' meetings covering short intervals in the period from 1892 to 1901, and a folder of typewritten minutes of stockholders' meetings held from 1899 to 1911.

"Some Phases of Iron Ore Transportation in Minnesota and on Lake Superior" is the title of an honor thesis prepared by Mildred Miller while a student in Hamline University, St. Paul, a copy of which has been presented by the history department of the university.

A large number of war production plant publications issued in Minnesota are being received regularly by the society, which is preserving the files for the future historian of the state's part in the war effort. Although many of these journals present items chiefly of interest to employees, most of them also contain information about war materials manufactured and processes used. Among such publications currently received are the *Twin City Ordnance News*, issued at New Brighton; the *Monark*, published by the Federal Cartridge Corporation at Anoka; the *Hoister* and the *Crosby Clipper* of the American Hoist and Derrick Company of St

Paul; the *3-M Megaphone* of the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company of St. Paul; the *M-H Circulator* of the Minneapolis Honeywell Regulator Company; the *MM Merchandiser* of the Minneapolis Moline Power Implement Company; and the *Beam* of the Northwest Airlines.

An interesting pen and ink sketch of Dr. William W. Folwell, made by W. H. Rubins, a Minneapolis artist, at a dinner given by the society on January 17, 1921, to mark the completion of the first volume of Dr. Folwell's *History of Minnesota*, has been presented by Mr. R. W. G. Vail of Albany, New York. At the time of the dinner Mr. Vail was librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society; he is now librarian of the New York State Library. In a letter accompanying his gift, he explains that he sat next to Mr. Rubins at the Folwell dinner, which was held in the main library reading room of the Historical Building. He relates that the sketch was made while the after-dinner speeches were in progress, and that when he admired it, the artist presented it to him. Following the dinner it was autographed by Dr. Folwell.

A square grand piano with a case of carved rosewood, a front panel elaborately inlaid with mother-of-pearl, and white keys of mother-of-pearl is the gift of Mrs. Louis W. Hill, Sr., of St. Paul. It was manufactured by Haines Brothers of New York and, as nearly as can be determined, it dates from the 1840's. The original owner was Mrs. Frederick A. Chapman, a resident of Connecticut; her daughter, the late Mrs. George R. Finch of St. Paul, took it with her to that city, and it has since remained there as a prized possession of the Finch family.

Dr. John M. Armstrong of St. Paul has presented a pair of epaulets worn by his grandfather and a white lace bonnet that belonged to his grandmother, both of which were used about the middle of the last century. A black dress coat worn by George W. Armstrong about 1859 is another item in this gift.

A patchwork quilt in the log cabin design, dating from 1865, is the gift of Mrs. W. H. Lamson of St. Paul. Two white silk vests and a man's shawl, all used about 1860, and a powder flask of 1861 have been presented by Dr. L. C. Bacon of St. Paul.

A bicycle of the high-wheeled type used about 1890 has been presented by Mr. Wallace Winter of Chicago, through the courtesy of Mrs. Laura Dean of St. Paul.

A shirt and a pair of leggings of white buckskin beautifully trimmed with quill work, made by Sioux Indians of the Plains, have been presented by the Misses Anita and Laura Furness of St. Paul. They have also given a shirt and a pair of leggings made by Chippewa Indians from red trade cloth. Eight baskets made by Indians of the Pacific coast area have been received from Mr. William A. Laidlaw of St. Paul.

From Lieutenant Commander Harold E. Stassen the society has received the pen that he used in signing the last bill passed by the legislature of 1943, just before he resigned from the governorship of the state to enter the United States Navy.

A group of stereopticon views of St. Paul and its vicinity in the 1870's and 1880's has been presented by Miss Minnie Ossmann of St. Paul. Her gift includes a Chippewa ceremonial bag of bead work and a knife sheath. Eleven photographs of the Newport area, taken after a severe tornado in 1890, have been presented by Mrs. Pearl Schock of Newport.

Photographs of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Lindeke, early residents of St. Paul, have been presented by their daughter, Miss Emma Lindeke of St. Paul. Another St. Paul pioneer, Peter Hopkins, is the subject of two portraits received from Mrs. George G. Sadd of Manchester, New Hampshire.

Several of the genealogies added to the society's library in recent months trace families that settled in Southern states. Among them are W. Gordon Belser, *The Belser Family of South Carolina* (1941. 67 p.); Judson Councill, *Hodges Councill of Virginia and Descendants* (Baltimore, 1941. 108 p.); *The John Blair Dabney Manuscript, 1795-1868* (Richmond, Virginia, 1942. 51 p.); Daniel H. Redfearn, *History of the Redfearn Family* (Miami, 1942. 160 p.); George M. G. Stafford, *General Leroy Augustus Stafford, His Forebears and Descendants* (New Orleans, 1943. 474 p.); Fanny F. Thrailkill, *Ancestral Chart of Joseph C. Thrailkill* (Minneapolis, 1934. 16 p.); and C. J. Maxwell, *Descendants of William Wilson (1722-1801) and Elizabeth Blackburn* (Dallas, Texas, 1943. 275 p.).

Minnesota families receive attention in *The Crooks Family of Crooks, South Dakota and Allied Families*, by Fannie S. Spurling (Delavan, Wisconsin, 1942. 37 p.); *The Cortelyou Genealogy* by John V. Cortelyou (Lincoln, Nebraska, 1942. 607 p.); *A Genealogy of the Quick*

Family in America (South Haven, Michigan, 1942. 483 p.); and in two books by Abbie Kyle—the *Godfrey Family Tree* (Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, 1943. 64 p.), and *Kyle Cousins, Descendants of William and Mary Vance Kyle* (Fort Atkinson, 1941. 101 p.).

Other genealogies acquired recently include: *Handbook of American Genealogy*, volume 4 (Chicago, 1943. 391 p.); Harold K. Bowen, *Book of Adam* (Osceola, Missouri, 1943. 14 p.); Harry T. Briggs, *The Colonial Ancestry of the Family of John Greene Briggs and Isabell Gibbs DeGroff* (New York, 1940. 498 p.); Elmer S. Clark, *Clark of Elizabeth Town in New Jersey* (Pontiac, Illinois, 1942. 229 p.); Fanny F. Thrailkill, *Frick-Markley-Thrailkill Chart* (Minneapolis, 1934. 9 p.); Samuel E. Atherton, *Samuel Goodrich of Chesterfield, N. H., His Ancestors and Descendants* (Muskegon, Michigan, 1942. 20 p.); Mary A. Phinney, *Isham Genealogy, a Brief History of Jirah Isham and His Descendants* (Rutland, Vermont, 1942. 179 p.); William S. Lincoln, *Descendants of Joshua Lincoln and Elizabeth Seekins Lincoln of Taunton, Massachusetts* (Olympia, Washington, 1942. 128 p.); Clarence S. Luitwieler, *Genealogy of the Luitwieler Family* (Abington, Massachusetts, 1942. 31 p.); Edwin M. McBrier, *Genealogy of the Loucks Family* (New York, 1940. 294 p.); Edwin M. McBrier, *Genealogy of the Descendants of Henry McBrier and Kezia Sloan McBrier* (New York, 1941. 284 p.); Albert B. Norton, *Descendants and Ancestors of Charles Norton of Guilford, Connecticut* (Washington, D. C., 1856. 26 p.); Manly Ostrander, *The House of Ostrander* (Deseronto, Ontario, 1942. 32 p.); Bessie L. Vincent, *A Brief History of the Vincent Family in America* (Sandy Creek, New York, 16 p.); and Rufus C. Zartman, *The Zartman Family, 1692-1942* (Rutland, Vermont, 1942. 432 p.).

Of the histories of churches and local histories that were received recently, those most useful to the genealogist are: Kendrick Grobel, *History of the First Church of Stafford, Connecticut* (Stafford Springs, Connecticut, 1942. 87 p.); Mary H. Mitchell, *History of the United Church of New Haven* (New Haven, Connecticut, 1942. 286 p.); Thomas J. de la Hunt, *Perry County: A History* (Indianapolis, Indiana, 1916. 359 p.); Winifred Goss, *Colonial Gravestone Inscriptions in the State of New Hampshire* (Dover, New Hampshire, 1942. 160 p.); Judson L. Broughton, *The Pavilion Community of New York State, 1800-1941* (Le Roy, New York, 1941. 155 p.); F. A. Sondley, *A History of Buncombe County, North Carolina* (Asheville, North Carolina,

1930. 2 vols.); Raymond M. Bell, *The Townships of Mother Cumberland* [Pennsylvania] (1943. 21 p.); Myrtle Magargel, *The History of Rock* (State College, Pennsylvania, 1940. 78 p.); Myrtle Magargel, *The Friends of Halfmoon Valley* (Centre, Pennsylvania, 1941. 39 p.); Mary E. K. Bratton, *History of the First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg, Virginia, 1815-1940* (Lynchburg, Virginia, 1942. 301 p.); and Elihu J. Sutherland, *Russell County, Virginia, Census of 1820* (Clintwood, Virginia, 1940. 19 p.).

News and Comment

IN ORDER TO "present our geographical history as completely and as read-ily as the *Dictionary of American History* presents our written history," James Truslow Adams and his associates in the preparation of the earlier work have issued an *Atlas of American History* (New York, 1943). The editors felt that there was a need "for maps that would interpret our history through the location of places as they actually existed and exactly where they existed at a given time." The 147 chronologically arranged plates in the *Atlas* admirably meet this need. They serve another purpose also, for on them may be located hundreds of "places commonly mentioned in our factual histories" that heretofore might be found only after referring to "widely separated books, atlases or original maps, often difficult of access and seldom at hand when needed, clumsy to handle—and generally not available in the average library." Among the maps that should be particularly useful to students of Minnesota and Northwest history are those of "New France to 1673" (plates 28 and 29), the "Discovery of the Mississippi" (plate 31), "Trans-Mississippi, French & Spanish, 1600-1750" (plate 36), "Lake Region, 1688-1753" (plate 40), "Indiana and Illinois Territories, 1800-1818" (plate 92), "Michigan Territory, 1805-1837" (plate 93), the "Louisiana Purchase and the Trans-Mississippi West, 1803-1817" (plates 94 and 95), "Boundary Treaties and the Westward Advance, 1818-1836" (plates 100 and 101), and "Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota Territories, 1832-1858" (plate 111). Plates 86 and 87, which show the "Geographer's Line and the Seven Ranges" and the system used in the "Survey of the Public Domain" will serve as convenient guides in the study of one phase of frontier history as well as in the reading of maps in general.

That the network of historical areas under the administration of the National Park Service provides an "outdoor or laboratory course for the study of American history" is the claim made by Alvin P. Stauffer and Charles W. Porter in an article on the "National Park Service Program of Conservation for Areas and Structures of National Historical Significance" in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for June. The authors contend that "if the aim of historical study and writing is the accurate portrayal of historic reality, the physical site and its remains

must be visited and given the same careful study that is bestowed on the written sources." The present article reviews legislation and presidential action relating to the preservation of historic sites during the past half century, and presents examples of varied types of sites and structures preserved by the federal government in its attempt "to make these basic historical source materials available to both the scientific historian and the general public."

Three possible solutions for the problems involved in "Planning a Permanent Program for Federal Records in the States" are suggested by Oliver W. Holmes in the April number of the *American Archivist*. He considers the feasibility and discusses the advantages and disadvantages of systems providing for a single depository for all federal records, to be located in Washington, and for regional and state depositories for the handling of federal records of more local interest. His paper is the first of a series, dealing with "The Problem of Federal Field Office Records," read before a meeting of the Society of American Archivists at Richmond, Virginia, on October 26, 1942. The others, which also appear in this number of the *Archivist*, are discussions of "The Interests of the States in Federal Field Office Records" by William D. McCain, of "Army Field Records" by Jesse S. Douglas, and of "The Need for Regional Depositories for Federal Records" by Richard B. Morris.

The Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad Company has placed on deposit with the Newberry Library of Chicago its general office files and records for the years from 1850 to 1887. They cover the period of the road's early expansion from Aurora and western Illinois westward to Burlington and Denver and northward to the Twin Cities. In a letter to Dr. Stanley Pargellis, librarian of the Newberry Library, Mr. Ralph Budd, president of the Burlington Lines, defines the terms of the deposit and describes the scope of the collection. The "records include the correspondence of the pioneers who founded and built this railroad and directed its policy during its first 37 years," writes Mr. Budd, "as well as files relating to construction, operation, and finance, and many items of local and biographical interest." He expresses the belief that they "will provide enlightening and, in many instances, new commentaries on the economic beginnings of the country, as well as on the social customs, the level of technological knowledge, and the business strategy of those early days." Only qualified students engaged in serious research will be given access to the railroad's papers. The collection consists of about ten

tons of records, and it will take about two years to arrange them and prepare them for use by research workers.

The "depiction of historical personages and events on a stage through dialogue and action" is classed as one "means at the command of an historical society wishing to bring back to the people of today the vibrant life of the past" in a *Bulletin* published in April by the American Association for State and Local History. It deals with "The Production of Local History Plays and Pageants," and its author, Samuel Selden, is an experienced director of such performances. He presents useful suggestions on planning and preparing historical plays and pageants, and on the types of historical sources that can be drawn upon for color and authenticity.

Professor Edgar B. Wesley of the University of Minnesota has been appointed chairman of a committee of four educators who are making a study of history teaching methods in the United States. A grant of ten thousand dollars from the Rockefeller Foundation makes the project possible. It is being conducted under the joint supervision of the American and Mississippi Valley historical associations.

A grant of fifty thousand dollars, to be expended by the University of Minnesota over a period of three years in financing fellowships in regional writing, has been made by the Rockefeller Foundation. The fund is being administered by a university committee, of which Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the graduate school is chairman, and Miss Helen Clapesattle, secretary. The committee has announced that it will accept applications for financial assistance from "competent writers interested in preparing biographies, histories, novels, and plays about the life, past or present, of the Central Northwest," an area that roughly embraces Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and North and South Dakota. Both new and established writers are eligible for fellowships under the grant. The amount of aid given will vary with individual needs. Half of the sum allowed will be an outright gift; the other half is to be returned to the fund from the author's royalties on the published work. Applications and letters of inquiry should be addressed to Miss Clapesattle at 103 Westbrook Hall, University of Minnesota.

The Mississippi Valley Historical Association held its thirty-sixth annual meeting at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, from April 22 to 24. Among the sessions of particular interest to students of Northwest history were those

dealing with "Special Collections in Midwestern Archives," "Contributions to Midwestern Cultural History," "Western, Local and Economic History," and "Agricultural History in the Mississippi Valley." Papers presented on these programs included discussions of "The Newberry Library as a Center of Midwestern Research" by Stanley Pargellis, on "The Iowa Masonic Library Collection" by C. C. Hunt, on "Housing on the Prairie and Plains" by James C. Malin, on "C. C. Washburn and Flour Milling" by C. L. Marquette, and on "The Department of Agriculture during the Commissionership" by Earle D. Ross. At a dinner meeting on April 23, Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the University of Minnesota was named president for the coming year (see *ante*, p. 161).

Three papers presented as part of a symposium on "Agricultural Frontiers in the United States" before a meeting of the Agricultural History Society in Chicago on December 29, 1941, have been published in the April number of *Agricultural History*. The process of "Moving Back from the Atlantic Seaboard" is the subject of the first article, which was contributed by Dr. Rodney C. Loehr of the history department in the University of Minnesota. Readers of this magazine will recall his article on Caleb D. Dorr in the issue for June, 1943. Two succeeding articles are Russell H. Anderson's "Advancing Across the Eastern Mississippi Valley," and Everett Dick's "Going Beyond the Ninety-fifth Meridian." In the same issue of *Agricultural History* appears "Frederick Jackson Turner's History of the Grignon Tract on the Portage of the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers." According to a brief introduction by Fulmer Mood and Everett E. Edwards, this essay is the "earliest item of a purely historical character" to be found in the bibliography of Turner's writings, for it was written during his junior year in the University of Wisconsin and was published in a Portage, Wisconsin, newspaper in June, 1883. A photostatic copy of the newspaper article is the basis for the present reprint.

Some notes with documentary and genealogical references on the life of Nicolas Perrot have been contributed by one of his descendants, J.-Alfred Perrault, to the May issue of the *Bulletin des recherches historiques*. S.D.

Dr. Elliott Coues, whose name is familiar to all students of Northwest history for his impressive editions of the journals of Alexander Henry, David Thompson, Zebulon M. Pike, and other explorers, is the subject

of one of the thirty-six biographies assembled in Edgar Erskine Hume's *Ornithologists of the United States Army Medical Corps* (Baltimore, 1942). Coues's record of military service, which is outlined by Dr. Hume, shows that he was ordered to the Department of Dakota in 1872 and that he reported at St. Paul a year later to join, as medical officer and naturalist, an expedition that surveyed the northern boundary from the Red River to the west coast. Of Minnesota and Northwest interest also is a sketch of Dr. George Suckley, who served as naturalist of the Pacific railroad survey when it moved westward from St. Paul in the spring of 1853.

The "Great Lakes Frontier" is the first of four *Zones of International Friction* in the period from 1748 to 1754 considered by Lawrence H. Gipson in volume 5 of a series dealing with the *British Empire Before the American Revolution* (New York, 1942). Events in the remote region beyond Lake Superior receive only slight attention, though there are brief mentions of Fort Beauharnois and of the posts established by the La Vérendryes in their search for the Western Sea.

The fur trade, the lumber industry, iron and copper mining, and grain shipping in the upper Northwest are briefly sketched in *The Story of the Great Lakes* as told for youthful readers by Marie E. Gilchrist (New York, 1942). The book is charmingly illustrated with lithographs by C. H. DeWitt.

Three groups of remarkable pictures, illustrating phases of life in America in the pioneer and Victorian eras, were displayed in the museum of the American Institute of Swedish Arts, Literature, and Science in Minneapolis from May 5 to 16. Of primary significance for the history of the Swedes in America were nine oil paintings in the exhibition of scenes and residents of the Bishop Hill colony of Illinois in the 1850's. They were copied by artists engaged in the Illinois Art Project of the WPA from original paintings by Olof Krans preserved in the colony. A sketch of Krans and a description of the circumstances under which he painted the original pictures is contributed by Albin Widen to the May issue of the institute's *Bulletin*. WPA projects in various western states were responsible for a second group of pictures, consisting of fifty water-color drawings and depicting various tools and implements used by pioneers of the Middle West. Included were pictures of a Red River cart and of a wooden harrow in the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Twenty-five water colors of Victorian interiors, prepared by the New York City WPA Art Project as part of an "Index of American Design," constituted the third group. Ranging in subject matter from a stable to a lady's boudoir, from a country kitchen to a photographer's studio, these highly colored composite drawings were based upon authentic objects, photographs, advertisements, and the like. All the pictures included in the display are in the custody of the Metropolitan Museum of New York. They were exhibited in the West for the first time at the Minneapolis showing, and most of the pictures included had been displayed previously only in New York and in one other eastern community.

In a volume entitled *Newport Tower* (New York, 1942. 344 p.), Philip A. Means undertakes to prove that a round stone tower at Newport, Rhode Island, long believed to have been originally intended for use as a windmill, "is the surviving part of a mediaeval Catholic church, built by Norsemen who came to this country between the XIIth and XIVth centuries." To the mass of evidence that he presents to prove his theory, he adds the inscription on the Kensington rune stone, which, he believes, shows "that around 1362 Vinland was still a 'going concern.'" Incidentally, Mr. Means announces that he has "collected in Copenhagen, Oslo, and Trondhjem some data, perhaps to be published in a later volume, which will finally clinch the authenticity of the Kensington inscription of 1362." Evidence that Mr. Means has not considered all aspects of this controversial subject may be found in his bibliography, for it includes Hjalmar R. Holand's discussion in support of the stone's authenticity, which appeared in this magazine for June, 1936, but it fails to list Laurence M. Larson's scholarly criticism of the problem published in March of the same year (see *ante*, 17: 20-37, 166-188). Among the many interesting illustrations in Mr. Means's book is a picture of the Kensington stone.

A list, compiled by Sverre Arestad, of "Scandinavian-Language Newspapers" that have been or are being published on the Pacific coast appears in a section of the July *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* devoted to "Research Suggestions." In a footnote, Mr. Arestad points out that the "starting point for research in Scandinavian historical writing in this area must . . . begin with the files of the Middle West newspapers," and he calls attention to such files in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society and the University of Minnesota.

Articles dealing with Norwegian pioneers in Dakota Territory, Iowa, Missouri, and the Pacific coast area are included in volume 13 of the *Norwegian-American Studies and Records* (Northfield, Minnesota, 1943). This most recent publication of the Norwegian-American Historical Association also contains several items of interest for the history of the Norwegian element in Minnesota. References to Scandinavian settlement in Minnesota and other states of the Northwest are to be found in "An Official Report on Norwegian and Swedish Immigration" prepared in 1870 by A. Lewenhaupt, the chargé d'affaires of the Swedish-Norwegian legation in Washington. In the present work, the report is presented in an English translation with a foreword by Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the University of Minnesota graduate school. Mention is made of the impoverished Norwegians "who came over a few years ago without owning a dollar, and now . . . constitute nine-tenths of the most progressive and prosperous farmers in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota" in an "America letter" of 1868 which appears under the title "A Norwegian Schoolmaster Looks at America." It has been translated and edited by C. A. Clausen. In an article entitled "A Singing Church," Paul Maurice Glasoe gives a concise review of the origin and growth of the music program of St. Olaf College under the stimulating leadership of F. Melius Christiansen. The "Memoirs" of Carl M. Grimstad, which have been edited by Henry H. Bakken and appear under the title "Pioneers in Dakota Territory, 1879-89," have considerable Minnesota interest because they center about the Red River Valley, and include an account of a journey across the state from Goodhue County to Moorhead.

The long and involved doctrinal controversies that caused a rift in the Norwegian Lutheran church and resulted in the reorganization in 1918 of the Norwegian Synod are reviewed in great detail in a little book entitled *Grace for Grace: Brief History of the Norwegian Synod* (Mankato, Minnesota, 1943. 211 p.). Its publication by the Lutheran Synod Book Company commemorates both the reorganization and the founding of the synod in 1853. Thus the book's appearance marks a ninetieth anniversary. More than half of the narrative is devoted to a "Historical Sketch of the Beginnings, Growth and Development of the Norwegian Synod" by Charles Anderson. Chapters relating to the "Doctrinal Controversies" are contributed by G. O. Lillegard.

Readers of Hildegard Binder Johnson's article on the "Carver County German Reading Society," which appears elsewhere in the present issue

of this magazine, will be interested also in her suggestive discussion of "Immigrant Traditions and Rural Middle Western Architecture," which appears in the *American-German Review* for June. After remarking upon the fact that "Few are the German towns and villages that do not have a namesake in one or more Middle Western states," Mrs. Johnson adds regretfully that "the homes in these diverse settlements developed into an amazingly uniform pattern." Occasionally, however, she has succeeded in locating structures that show traces of the builders' European background, and she cites a few examples to be found in Minnesota. Among them is a log house built in 1856 near New Ulm by William Pfaender. "Its broad dimensions, the deep, overhanging, thatched roof covering a porch enabled this solid structure to withstand the worst tornado of the region in 1882," writes Mrs. Johnson. To illustrate her article she presents a picture of the Pfaender house and photographs of buildings erected by a pioneer German settler at Stillwater and an early Norwegian in Otter Tail County. A German contribution to American agricultural history is given recognition by Theodore Schreiber in an article in the April issue of the *Review* on "Joseph Seemann, Creator of Michigan's Sugar Bowl." According to this account, Seemann "sent the first beet seeds to Michigan" from Germany in 1889, and he later encouraged both American and German farmers "to try the new crop by publishing authentic information on the culture of beets."

A group of multigraphed booklets issued from 1937 to 1940 by the Service Bureau for Intercultural Education of New York makes available to teachers and students a suggestive series of racial and cultural studies. Most of the topics are presented in the form of "classroom material"; all the booklets include suggestions for further reading; and a few are purely bibliographical in content. Included in the series are brief, though stimulating, reviews of Czechoslovak, Italian, Welsh, Scottish, Scotch-Irish, and Jewish immigration. The Polish element is represented by a brief bibliography. Special cultural and social contributions to American life are treated in pamphlets on the *German Influence in American Education* by Charlotte Gillard (1937), on *German Cooking and Its Influence in the United States* by Florence Plummer (1937), on *British and Irish Influence on Sports in the United States* by Ruth E. Davis (1939), and on *Scandinavian Cooking and Food Habits* (1940). The Asiatic influence in American life is suggested in a sketch of *Lue Gim Gong, A Chinese-American Horticulturist* (1939).

In a booklet entitled *The Folk Singer*, Dan E. Vornholt has assembled folk songs brought into the Northwest by some sixteen racial groups (1943. 40 p.). One of the three Norwegian songs included, "Oh, Carry Water," is presented in a translation made by Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the graduate school in the University of Minnesota. Both the music and the texts of the songs are given in this booklet, which has been published as a *Special Circular* by the extension service of the college of agriculture of the University of Wisconsin. Another recently published collection of American folk music is presented in the *Gold Rush Song Book*, in which Eleanor Black and Sidney Robertson bring together twenty-five ballads of the forty-niners (San Francisco, 1940).

The where, what, and how of local historical organization and museum collecting are discussed by Loring McMillen in an article entitled "How We Study Local History on Staten Island," which appears in volume 40 of the *Proceedings* of the New York State Historical Association. As borough historian, Mr. McMillen helped to transform the Staten Island Historical Society from an antiquated to a modern institution that is a vital force in the community. His account of the steps by which the transformation was made should serve as a useful guide to local historical leaders in general.

Agricultural organization in one of Minnesota's neighbor states is surveyed by John Henry Haefner in an article on the evolution of the "Iowa State Department of Agriculture" appearing in the April number of the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics*. With the founding of the Iowa State Agricultural Society in December, 1853, writes Mr. Haefner, agricultural organization in the area had its official beginning. He notes that the society was a typical frontier organization, for "it was formed on the initiative of the people concerned, not by the government; it was manned by officers who were intensely interested in the cause"; it "was essentially democratic; and it aimed primarily at crystallizing public opinion and bringing pressure to bear upon the legislature in the interests of agriculture." Its "most dramatic" activity, the management of the Iowa State Fair, is described in some detail. The writer also gives some attention to local agricultural societies, and discusses the development after 1900, when it was established, of the state department of agriculture.

The simple forms of entertainment enjoyed in an isolated rural household of the Middle West in the 1870's are described by Catherine Ann

McCollum in an article on "Winter Evenings in Iowa," which has been edited and annotated for publication in the *Journal of American Folklore* for April-June by Kenneth W. Porter. The author's parents, who had emigrated from Pennsylvania, were of Scotch-Irish ancestry. With them they took to the West a store of folk songs and riddles, many of which are quoted in the present article. Some notes supplementing Gladys J. Haney's Paul Bunyan bibliography in the *Journal* for July-September, 1942, are presented by Herbert Halpert in the issue for January-March.

Emigrants from the East took with them household utensils and local recipes; new homes in the West were "not long established before fragrant aromas rose from the stew pan and the frontier skillet or spider." These points are emphasized by Philip D. Jordan in an article entitled "The Stew Pan and the Spider," published in the *Palimpsest* for April. What the frontier housewife, especially in Iowa, prepared from the products of the Midwest farm, and what her family ate are revealed in this article. Much of the author's information is drawn from old cookbooks.

Tales of lumbering in western Wisconsin in the 1870's and 1880's "When the Chippewa Forks Were Driving Streams" are narrated by Joe A. Moran in the June number of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*. The article contains some pertinent information about the methods and terminology of the logging drive and the equipment used in the camps.

How the fields of history and art overlap is vividly illustrated in the March *Bulletin* of the Detroit Institute of Arts of the City of Detroit. It presents a "Cross Section of Architecture, 1823-1843," in the form of an essay by Hawkins Ferry on "Representative Detroit Buildings," prepared in connection with an exhibit of photographs and architects' designs of local structures. It is significant that these were assembled, at the suggestion of local architects, as a permanent "archives of Detroit architecture" for preservation by the institute.

The opening to settlement of the Lake Traverse Indian Reservation is recalled in the *Valley News* of Browns Valley for April 15 of the present year, the fifty-first anniversary of the event. At exactly noon of the opening day in 1892, pistols were fired to serve as signals that the reservation was open to land seekers. The scene that followed, according to the *News*, "will never be forgotten by old timers who witnessed it." There was a "great shout" from the spectators, and a "grand stamped and rush" on the part of prospective settlers.

Pictures of the "Past and Present at Lower Fort Garry" are reproduced in the June number of the *Beaver*. Among the buildings depicted are the factor's house and a stone warehouse used for storing furs. Of interest to students of the history of the Red River settlements is an article based upon "Two Curious Fur-trade Wills" left by Peter Fidler and James Leith. The terms of the former, which included the bequest of a substantial library to the Red River colony, are set forth by W. S. Wallace; the latter is explained by E. R. Bagley, who brings out the fact that funds left by Leith made possible the creation of the bishopric of Rupert's Land. Contemporary customs of the Chippewa of Canada are described in articles on the "Medicine Man," and on the "Uses of Birch Bark." The latter account, which is by Douglas Leechman, is accompanied by some excellent illustrations.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

The "Indian 'Mystery Writing'" of pictographs found on Lac la Croix and other Minnesota border lakes draw the attention of Ray L. Sicard in the June issue of the *Conservation Volunteer*. Additional comment about pictographs is provided by Dr. Grace Lee Nute of the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society, who cites references to paintings, carvings, and lichen cuttings found in the narratives of early travelers in the border lake country. How Minnesota acquired its "Newest State Park" in April, 1943, when the state accepted from the federal government the area known as St. Croix State Park, is explained by Harold Lathrop in the same issue of the *Volunteer*.

The background of the separation of the Minnesota Chippewa into two groups, the Minnesota Chippewa tribe and the Red Lake band of Chippewa Indians, is analyzed in the *Minnesota Chippewa Bulletin* for May 21. The recent segregation of the lands of the two groups is announced in this number.

In an article on "Ahsahwaince, His Hundred Years," Sister M. Inez Hilger presents, in *Mid-America* for April, a record of an interview with an aged Chippewa of the White Earth Reservation. The record was made for the author in 1936, when she was engaged in gathering material for a study of primitive child life. She believes that it has value both for the anthropologist and for the student of Minnesota's Catholic history. Some information about Catholic missions among the Chippewa

and on the work of such missionaries as Father Francis Pierz and Father Aloysius Hermanutz is added by the author. A condensed version of her article appears in the *Catholic Digest* for June.

A bust of Professor Maria L. Sanford, a member of the University of Minnesota faculty from 1880 to 1909, will be placed in Statuary Hall in the Capitol in Washington, under the provisions of a bill passed by the Minnesota legislature of 1943 and signed by Governor Stassen on April 14. Each state is entitled to place statues of two distinguished citizens in Statuary Hall. Previously, Minnesota has been represented by a likeness of Senator Henry M. Rice.

Under the title "A Bit of Minnesota Legislative History," R. B. Forrest of Lake Wilson presents a series of reminiscent articles in the *Murray County Herald* of Slayton. The first installment, which appears in the issue of May 20, reveals that the author's contact with the Minnesota legislature has covered a half century, since it began in 1893. The writer recalls not only events and personalities connected with the legislative houses, but he tells also of life in Minnesota's capital during the sessions.

A family that had its roots in Minnesota is pictured by David F. Chapman in a little book entitled *A Challenge to Youth: Biography of Robert Henry Michelet* (1943. 110 p.). Although his subject is the brief career of a boy whose life span came to a close before he completed his college course, the author presents some interesting data about the boy's father, Mr. Simon Michelet, a resident of Minnesota and a figure in its political life previous to 1920. Material is presented on Mr. Michelet's services as a lawyer in Minneapolis, as assistant county attorney of Hennepin County, as agent to the Chippewa of the White Earth Reservation in the early 1900's, and as secretary to Senator Knute Nelson.

Mr. James Eckman and Dr. Charles E. Bigelow continue their "History of Medicine in Dodge County," which has been appearing in *Minnesota Medicine* since February, in the issues for April, May, and June. The arrangement is by decades, and the recent installments carry the narrative from the 1860's through the 1880's. Although emphasis is given to sketches of individuals, the authors have improved upon most of the county histories in the "History of Medicine in Minnesota" by identifying the careers of local physicians with local events and regional developments. For example, the relationship between medical practice and the building of railroads is brought out in the section on the 1860's. The au-

thors seem to have used some obscure sources, among them a little paper known as *The Wind Mill* published by Dr. Horace P. Porter at Kasson in the 1870's.

"The Story of St. Paul's Cathedral" is briefly reviewed by Ann Forrester in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 30. Much of the account is devoted to a description of the structure, with notes on its architectural features.

The fiftieth anniversary of Concordia College, a Lutheran high school and junior college located in St. Paul, was marked by a four-day program opening on June 6 and closing on June 10. The school was established in 1893 by the Missouri Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran church, with Dr. Theodore Buenger as president. Although he resigned from that post in 1927, his connection with its faculty continued to the end of the present school year. An illustrated anniversary volume (78 p.) issued to commemorate the anniversary is dedicated to Dr. Buenger and it opens with a sketch of his career. It includes also a review of the school's history, sketches of faculty members, accounts of its library and museum, and notes on student activities. Another brief account of the history of Concordia appears in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 30.

An attempt made by Samuel A. King to travel by balloon from Minneapolis to the Atlantic coast in September, 1881, is described by Jeremiah Milbank, Jr., in a recent survey of *The First Century of Flight in America* (Princeton, New Jersey, 1943). For the trip King had prepared an enormous balloon, and he planned to take with him six passengers, five of whom were newspaper reporters. Although they made a successful start, unfavorable winds forced an early landing not far from the take-off. King's exploit seems to be the only Minnesota flight mentioned by Mr. Milbank, who fails to take note of the derigible built by Count Zeppelin at Fort Snelling in the early sixties.

In an article entitled "Power in the Forest," appearing in the *Conservation Volunteer* for May, J. C. Ryan calls attention to the end of an era in the history of Minnesota lumbering, marked by the dismantling in 1941 of the last logging railroad in the state. This was the Duluth and Northeastern Railroad, which the author describes as the last Minnesota road "that depended entirely on the logging industry for its existence." Some of the other railroads built in northern Minnesota for logging purposes are listed by the author, who also describes the equipment and

methods used in railroad logging. His brief article deals with a neglected aspect of an important Minnesota industry.

The smallpox epidemic that raged in the lumber camps of northern Minnesota in 1883 is recalled in the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review* for April 21, where the column entitled "Up in This Neck of the Woods" is devoted to the subject. Special attention is given to the efforts of Samuel P. Rogers, who was running a camp on the Big Fork River, to keep the epidemic under control by preventing lumberjacks from visiting the settlements in the vicinity. In the same column for June 23, some of the unusual equipment used by loggers in the border lake country is discussed. The "log driving alligator," which is "operated almost entirely in the Ontario woodlands," is described in some detail.

Subjects for books about *The Timbered Border* of northern Minnesota that remain to be written are suggested by L. A. Rossman, a member of the executive council of the Minnesota Historical Society, in a recently published pamphlet (Grand Rapids, 1942. 11 p.). He outlines some of the possibilities in the stories of iron mining, of timber and the lumber industry, and of the Rainy Lake gold rush.

Material of local historical interest is occasionally woven into the narratives that Mr. George L. Peterson publishes in the *Minneapolis Tribune* under the general heading of "Northwest Passage." In the issue for April 11, he retells the story of the Mountain Iron mine, the scene of the Meritts' ore discovery of 1890, which has now been reopened after thirty-four years of inactivity. Niagara Cave at Harmony and "Our Own Unknown 'Ozarks'" in Houston County are the subjects of sketches published in the issues for May 12 and 14. An article on the Paul Bunyan legends, published on March 21, reopened an old controversy about the authenticity of the tales as native American folklore. It brought replies in the form of communications from Mr. W. B. Laughead of Westwood, California, who was responsible for the earliest publication of the tales, and from Mr. W. E. Harrington of Minneapolis. Both writers supply evidence pointing to the early origin of the legends in the lumber camps. Their letters appear in the issues of the *Tribune* for April 11 and 18.

The world into which Governor Harold Stassen was born in April, 1907, and the changing scenes that he has witnessed were described in some detail by President Walter C. Coffey of the University of Minnesota at a farewell dinner accorded the governor on April 26, just before he

reported for active duty as a lieutenant commander in the United States Naval Reserve. The connections between local and world events were stressed by Dr. Coffey throughout his address, a condensed version of which appears under the title "Headlines and History" in the *Minnesota Alumnus* for May.

The United States Maritime Commission has announced that a merchant ship launched on the Pacific coast on June 9 was named the "Governor John A. Johnson" in honor of one of Minnesota's most widely known chief executives.

One of Minnesota's historic houses, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Keiwe, is the subject of an article in the June number of *Northwest Life*. Overlooking the junction of the Rum and Mississippi rivers at Anoka, the house was built before the Civil War by a Dr. Shaw.

WAR HISTORY ACTIVITIES

What the use of the microfilm will mean to the future historian of the Second World War is explained by Kenneth R. Shaffer in the *Saturday Review of Literature* for February 20, where he attempts to answer the question "Can Historians Keep Up with the War?" The writer explains the advantages of the microfilm process, by which "material of the greatest bulk is reduced to a few compact reels of film," with a consequent release of storage space and reduction of handling costs. "The economy of microfilm," he continues, "makes it particularly suitable for the vast bulk of records of marginal value" produced by both governmental and private agencies in the present conflict—records that "will be of historical importance for centuries hence." He discusses also the role of archival institutions and libraries in preserving war records, and he describes some of the unusual types of materials included in the collection of war literature of the Yale University library.

Dr. Solon J. Buck, a former superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society who is now archivist of the United States, and Dr. Guy Stanton Ford, who served until recently as president of the University of Minnesota, are members of a committee that is making plans for a national war history commission. Plans for this independent federal agency responsible to the President are described in the *State and Local History News* for March.

Under the title "War History and War Records," the *Indiana History Bulletin* for February surveys the war records collecting agencies in other states, including Minnesota. Items that should be assembled by those engaged in "War History Work" are listed in the April number.

The many types of materials that will be useful for the historian of the present war are suggested in a leaflet recently issued by the Ohio War History Commission. In addition to letters, diaries, pictures, government archives, and the like, it lists such materials as records relating to religious and social organizations, to conscientious objectors, and to public health. It should serve as a suggestive guide to individuals and groups engaged in collecting local records.

The Pennsylvania Historical Commission has published, under the direction of Sylvester K. Stevens, state historian, a pamphlet entitled *Pennsylvania's First Year at War* (100 p.). It covers the period from December 7, 1941, to December 7, 1942.

A useful *War Records Manual* (1943. 16 p.) has been published in mimeographed form by the Wisconsin War Records Commission. It contains concrete directions for the setting up of county war records committees, and presents many useful suggestions about the types of materials that should be assembled and preserved, about the arrangement and indexing of collections, and about the making of inventories of local war records.

An institute for the discussion of problems connected with the "Citizen's War at Home" was held at the University of Minnesota from April 1 to 3. It was arranged and sponsored by the Minnesota Office of Civilian Defense, and was designed to assist the heads of local defense councils in the state. Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, and Minnesota were represented at a regional institute held under the auspices of the American Library Association at the University of Minnesota on April 9 and 10. Special problems confronting the librarian in wartime were discussed.

The fact that the "historian of this war will need factual materials of all kinds, records of 'history in the making' set down at the moment and preserved intact" is stressed in an editorial on "Minnesota War History" appearing in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for April 13. To emphasize the need for the preservation of such records, the writer points out that "inquiries right now about what happened a week ago, a month ago or a year ago

in this war can only be answered or verified by reference to the record which somebody at the time had the forethought to make and save." He commends the Minnesota War History Committee, which with the co-operation of the Minnesota Historical Society, "has been working to keep a running record of the progress of the state's efforts in the war and the effects of the war upon the state and its citizens."

Since the 1943 legislature failed to appropriate funds for the War History Committee as an agency of the Office of Civilian Defense, the committee's collecting activities have been taken over by the Minnesota Historical Society. The latter organization also will direct the work of the scores of local war history committees existing in counties and communities throughout Minnesota.

The University of Minnesota is compiling a list of students, particularly undergraduates, who leave their studies for service with the armed forces. All individuals who leave the university under these circumstances are issued certificates showing that they were in good standing at the time of departure.

War history committees were organized and chairmen were named in eight additional counties during the period from April 1 to June 30. They bring the total number of county and community committees operating in the state to ninety-four. The names of the newly organized counties and their chairmen follow: Aitkin County, Mrs. Lyle E. Johnson of Aitkin; Chisago County, Elias Nordgren of North Branch; Cook County, Adolph Toftey of Grand Marais; Dodge County, Dana Hinckley of Claremont; Lake County, Helen Thoreen of Two Harbors; Nicollet County, Conrad Peterson of St. Peter; Pine County, Mrs. Edythe M. Robinson of Pine City; and Stevens County, Mrs. Clayton A. Gay of Morris.

Letters from local men who are serving with the armed forces appear regularly in many Minnesota newspapers, including the *Hanska Herald*. In the issue of May 7, for example, are letters from men stationed in Yakima, Washington, "somewhere in the Southwest Pacific," and in Africa.

An appeal for letters, printed items, pictures, and other material reflecting Ramsey County's participation in the Second World War appears under the title "County Seeks War Records for History Compilation" in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for June 22. Individuals who have such items are asked to send them to the Ramsey County War History Committee in

order that they might become "part of the permanent historical records of the county after the war."

News items about the activities of the Victory Aides and other war organizations in Hibbing are to be found in the *Victory Aider*, a leaflet issued monthly in mimeographed form by the Hibbing Citizens' Service Corps. Mrs. O. H. Peterson is the editor.

Names of alumni of the Madelia High School who served in the Spanish-American and First World wars and who are now in the armed services of the Second World War are listed in a "souvenir program" issued in connection with the fifty-second annual meeting of the high school alumni association on June 1.

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

The Goodhue County Historical Society has issued an appeal for photographs of local men and women who are serving with the nation's armed forces. The society hopes to build up a complete pictorial record of the participation of its residents in the Second World War. Items from the society's collections occasionally are used as the basis for articles published under the title "Historical Potpourri" in various county newspapers. For example, information drawn from a household account book of pioneer days appears in the *Kenyon Leader* for May 7.

Dr. Grace Lee Nute, curator of manuscripts for the Minnesota Historical Society, was the principal speaker at the annual meeting of the Hennepin County Historical Society, which was held in Richfield, a suburb of Minneapolis, on April 13. She took as her subject the "Fur Trade and Fur Traders" of the Northwest, giving special attention to the traders of the British period. In order to insure the permanency of its museum collections and to encourage individuals to make bequests in its name, the Hennepin County society has been incorporated. Members were given an opportunity to vote on the question of incorporation at the annual summer outing, which was held at Minnehaha Park on June 19. The program on that occasion included talks on the geology of the Minnehaha Falls area by Professor Frank F. Grout of the University of Minnesota, and on "Minnehaha Park and the Park Board" by Charles Doell. In accordance with a plan to make its collections more readily available in wartime, the society has arranged a number of displays in the windows of Minneapolis business concerns. Three such exhibits, consisting

of old firearms, early maps of Minneapolis, and the surveyor's instrument used by Charles W. Christmas, are described in the *Robbinsdale Post* for April 15. In addition, a traveling exhibit consisting chiefly of typical pioneer objects, has been taken to schools and club meetings by the director of the society's museum, Mr. Edward A. Blomfield, who presents a brief explanatory talk.

Four members of the board of directors of the Kandiyohi County Historical Society were elected at the organization's annual meeting, which was held at Willmar on June 15. They are G. Elmer Johnson of Mamre, John W. Wagner of Raymond, and Victor Lawson and John Kleberg of Willmar. The program included talks and addresses by Martin Leaf, Judge Nels Swenson, and Senator Harry L. Wahlstrand.

An interesting recent addition to the collections of the Martin County Historical Society is an enormous card, measuring fourteen by eighteen inches, issued in 1876 to advertise Fairmont's principal business concerns. It has been presented by Mr. Joseph Blaisdell of Minot, North Dakota, whose father, Humphrey M. Blaisdell, was a pioneer lawyer at Fairmont. The card, which was designed for display in hotels and other public places, is the subject of a detailed article in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for June 12.

Some recent acquisitions of the Polk County Historical Society are listed in an article, in the *Crookston Daily Times* for April 10, describing the growth of its museum, which is located in the courthouse at Crookston. The museum is open to the public every afternoon from Monday through Friday, with Mrs. Bert Levins, the society's secretary, in charge. Students are invited to make use of the collections, which include bound volumes of a local newspaper and of the publications of the Minnesota Historical Society.

"Men and Attitudes in the Early History of St. Olaf College" was the title of an address presented by Professor Theodore Jorgenson of the school's history department before a meeting of the Rice County Historical Society on May 11. It was held in the new library building on the St. Olaf College campus in Northfield. The second speaker on the program, Professor Kenneth Bjork, reviewed the activities of the Norwegian-American Historical Association and told of its archives, which are located in the new library. Dr. Jorgenson's paper appears in installments in

the *Faribault Daily News* from May 17 to 20, and in the *Northfield Independent* for June 17 and 24.

Officers of the Roseau County Historical Society, elected at the annual meeting held in Roseau on June 24, include Louis Enstrom, president, Jacob Snustad, secretary, C. B. Dahlquist, treasurer, and P. O. Fryklund, curator. Plans for a history of the county, now in preparation, were announced.

The history of the little German settlement of Charlottenburg, which in time became part of Stillwater, was reviewed by the Reverend A. C. Ernst in a talk presented before the Washington County Historical Society on June 3. The large and interested audience included descendants of several of the early settlers of the community, which centered about a sawmill built by Frederick Schulenburg. The chairman of the society's membership committee, Mrs. E. M. Mosier, reported that more than forty people had joined the society recently. Miss Annie Connors, who reported for the museum committee, announced that the society's museum would soon open for the summer, and that three rooms in the building had been taken over by groups of women who would furnish and maintain them.

Some recent additions to the collections of the Watonwan County Historical Society are described in the *St. James Plaindealer* for June 17. Among them are several photograph albums filled with portraits of pioneer residents of the county. These, according to Mr. George S. Hage, president of the society, were "rescued from a bonfire." He makes an appeal to families and individuals to consult with some member of the historical society or with the county librarian before destroying letters, books, newspapers, or other items that might be stored in their attics or barns.

Plans to open the museum of the Waseca County Historical Society on Saturday afternoons during the summer months were made at a meeting held in Waseca on April 5. A brief sketch of the history of the society appears in the *Waseca Herald* for April 1.

Letters, documents, pictures, and other items reflecting H. C. Garvin's part in the development of the parks and highways of Winona have been added to the collections of the Winona County Historical Society by

Mr. William Codman. This recent gift is one of a large number listed in the *Winona Republican-Herald* for May 12. The museum is located on the campus of the Winona State Teachers College.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

A manuscript "Report of the Business Men of Mankato, South Bend, and Winnebago Indian Agency, Minnesota Territory," prepared by a Mankato law firm in 1857, is the basis for an informing article by Frank Franciscus in the *Mankato Free Press* for April 6. John A. Willard and Sheldon F. Barney drew up the report for R. B. Dun and Company of New York; a copy retained by Willard is now owned by his son, Mr. W. D. Willard of Mankato. The items published in the *Free Press* indicate that the report is rich in information on pioneer business conditions in the Minnesota Valley.

The historical value of local newspaper files is stressed by L. W. Spicer in an article entitled "Our Local Newspapers Have Recorded Our History from the Earliest Pioneer Days," which appears in the *Evening Tribune* of Albert Lea for May 7. Files in the possession of the Albert Lea Public Library, the *Tribune*, and the Minnesota Historical Society have been consulted by the author in preparing this article. His article might well serve as a bibliography of Freeborn County newspapers, and as a guide to material on the editors and publishers who produced them.

Among the articles included by C. A. Rasmussen in his column entitled "An Historical Potpourri," which appears regularly in the *Red Wing Republican Eagle* and a number of other Goodhue County newspapers, is one of special interest on "Early Grain Marketing." It appears in the issue of June 4. It presents some recollections of the late M. S. Urevig of Leon, who told the writer that he "made 11 trips to Red Wing with a yoke of oxen, hauling wheat" in the fall of 1867, and that it took him a day and two nights to make each trip of twenty-eight miles. The route followed and the methods of travel are described in some detail. The story of the Zumbrota library, which is given credit for being the "first public library in Goodhue county," is related in the issue for May 15.

Some extracts from an address by Judge W. H. Goetzinger in which he tells of "Early Explorers and Settlers on Pelican Lake" appear in the *Ashby Review* for May 13. Included are notes on Red River ox cart

trains and stage lines that passed through Grant County in pioneer days, on some of the county's early settlers, on the problem of selecting a county seat, and on the organization of local government.

A contest sponsored by a local woman's club resulted in the writing of the "History of Ogilvie" which appears in installments in the *Ogilvie Sentinel* from April 1 to 22. The authors, Betty Brettingen, Dorothy Lomker, and Joyce Haydnet, were awarded first prize for their narrative. It reviews the story of a Kanabec County village that evolved from a logging center on the Groundhouse River.

Recollections of life in Dassel, recorded by Oscar E. Lindquist and originally published in the *Dassel Dispatch* (see *ante*, 22:446), have been reprinted in a booklet entitled *Those Were the Days* (32 p.). In addition to the usual array of "firsts," biographical notes on early residents, records of churches, and the like, Mr. Lindquist presents some bits of social and business history of more than ordinary interest and value. In this category may be placed a list of traveling men who made regular visits to Dassel in the 1890's with the names of the firms they represented. The drummers went to Dassel by rail, and after calling on the merchants there "used the livery for the inland stores," Mr. Lindquist recalls. He asserts that local merchants received "from three to fifteen of these welcome salesmen every day."

The history of the First State Bank of Le Roy, which completed fifty years of community service on May 2, is outlined in the *Le Roy Independent* for May 21.

The Perley Co-operative Creamery Association of Norman County is the subject of a historical sketch in the *Norman County Index* of Ada for April 8. The association, which began operations in the spring of 1892 as the Lee Co-operative Creamery, has contributed substantially to the development of dairying in northern Minnesota.

A pioneer St. Paul business concern, the Ramaley Printing Company, commemorates in 1943 the eightieth anniversary of its founding by publishing an attractive booklet in which its history is reviewed and the career of its founder, David Ramaley, is sketched. The printing firm is not the only enterprise inaugurated by Ramaley that persists to the present, for in 1868 he joined H. P. Hall in establishing the *St. Paul Dispatch*. Mentioned also in the booklet are the men who now control the

affairs of the printing business, including Mr. Henry J. Crepeau, its president. The modern equipment now used by the firm also is described.

One result of the interest in community backgrounds that has been prompted by the Stillwater centennial is a narrative entitled "The Story of Stillwater," which has been appearing in installments in the *Stillwater Daily Gazette* since May 10. It goes back to Joseph R. Brown's town of Dakotah and to the founding in 1843 of the Stillwater Lumber Company.

